ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF HOPEDALE

ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH EDITION

JULY 1, 2002 TO JUNE 30,2003

FISCAL YEAR 2003

INDEX

Appointed Town Officials 5
Elected Federal and State Officials 3
Elected Town Officials 4
General Interest Information 1
Telephone Directory 2

ELECTION
Annual Town Election 9

TOWN MEETINGS
Special Town Meeting Warrant – November 19, 2002 10
Special Town Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2002 13
Annual Town Meeting Warrant – April 8, 2003 16
Annual Town Meeting Minutes – April 8, 2003 19
Annual Town Meeting Minutes – June 24, 2003 23
Special Town Meeting Warrant – June 24, 2003 25
Annual Town Meeting Minutes – April 8, 2003 28

REPORTS
Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District 29
Board of Health 33
Board of Selectmen 38
Building Department 39
Council on Aging 40
Cultural Council 42
Fire Department 43
Housing Authority 48
Library 49
Park Commission 51
Planning Board 54
Police Department 55
Road Commission 58
School Committee 59
School Superintendent 61
Town Accountant 63
Town Clerk 36
Town Counsel 74
Town Treasurer 76
Tree Warden 80
Wages Paid to Municipal Employees 81
Veterans' Services 93
Water & Sewer Commission 92

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GENERAL INTEREST INFORMATION

Town of Hopedale - Incorporated April 7, 1886

POPULATION:	6054
REGISTERED VOTERS:	3458
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING:	Second Tuesday in April
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION:	Second Tuesday in May
AREA:	5.12 sq.mi

Editor's Notes:
Thank you to the officials who submitted reports for this edition.
We are currently working on the Town website that can be viewed at
www.hopedale-ma.gov

TOWN OF HOPEDALE
TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

GENERAL OFFICE:	
Town Hall	634-2203
78 Hopedale Street	
P.O. Box 7	
Board of Selectmen	ext. 13
Town Coordinator	ext. 13
Town Clerk	ext. 15
Water/Sewer Department	ext. 12
Assessors' Office	ext. 14
Building Inspector	ext. 16
Health Agent	ext. 22
Highway Department	ext. 21
Town Accountant	ext. 19
Town Treasurer/Tax Collector	ext. 20
Bancroft Library	634-2209
Council on Aging	634-2208
Fire Department	473-1050
Fire/Medical Emergency	911
Police Department	634-2227
Police Emergency	911
Waste Water Treatment Plant	634-2210
154 Mendon Street	
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	
Memorial School – 54 Adin Street	634-2214
Junior/Senior High School – 25 Adin Street	
Superintendent's Office	634-2220
Principal's Office	634-2217
Guidance Office	634-2221
Pupil Personnel Services	634-2240

FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICIALS

U.S. SENATOR		Senator Edward M. Kennedy 317 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510
	District Office:	2400 JFK Federal Building Boston, MA 02203 (617)565-3170
	E-mail:	*senator@kennedy.senate.gov*
U.S. SENATOR		Senator John F. Kerry 304 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510
	District Office:	90 Madison Place, Room 205 Worcester, MA 01608 (508)831-7380
	E-mail:	*john_kerry@kerry.senate.gov*
U.S. CONGRESSMAN		Richard E. Neal 2133 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 (202)225-5601
	District Office:	4 Congress Street Post Office Building Milford, MA 01757 (508)634-8198
	E-mail:	*www.house.gov/writerep*
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH		W. Mitt Romney State House, Room 360 Boston, MA 02133 (617)725-4005
	E-mail:	*www.mass.gov*
SENATOR IN MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE		Guy W. Glodis State House, Room 213B Boston, MA 02133 (617)722-1485
	E-mail:	*www.mass.gov*
REPRESENTATIVE IN MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE		Marie J. Parente State House, Room 466 Boston, MA 02133 (617)722-2017
	E-mail:	*www.mass.gov*

TOWN OF HOPEDALE.....ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

		Term Expires
BlackstoneValley Vocational High School Committee	Everett Young	2004
Board of Selectmen	Michael Collins..Ch	2003
	Alan Ryan	2004
	Mike Milanoski	2005
Housing Authority	Ellen Murphy...Ch	2003
	Edward Malloy	2003
	Karen Villani	2004
	Edith Francis (State)	2004
	Louis Trevani	2005
Park Commission	James Binney	2005
	Richard Espanet	2005
	Margaret McElroy	2006
Road Commissioners	William Marquis	2003
	Donald R. Fafard	2004
	John Farrar, Jr...Ch	2005
School Committee	Liz Lerner	2003
	Mary Cockroft	2003
	Richard Martin...Ch	2004
	Justine Tonelli	2004
	Louis Arcudi	2005
Planning Board	Joseph Luchini	2003
	Michael Weaver	2003
	D. Craig Travers...Ch	2005
	Harland Griffin	2005
	Harry Ohannesian	2006
Town Clerk	Ronda Ohannesian	2004
Town Moderator	Francis J. Larkin	2003
Tree Warden	Leo Lyons	2005
Library Trustees	Frederick Oldfield III	2004
	Nancy Verdolino	2005
	Kathy Wright	2006
Water/Sewer Commission	Harold Anderson	2003
	Aldo Tarca	2004
	James Morin	2005

		Term Expires
Americans with Disabilities ADA Coordinator	Alan Klepper *	
Animal Inspector	Leon Mael	
Associate Assessor	Russ Murray *	
Bancroft Memorial Library Director	Beth Hoffer	
Board of Assessors	Lisa Alberto	2003
	Eugene Phillips	2004
	Richard Volpe...Ch	2005
Board of Registrars	Dorothy Milanoski...Ch	2003
	Joseph Drugan	2004
	Robert (Zeke) Hammond	2005
Building Commissioner	Michael Tusino	2003
By-Law Review Committee	Ken Andre	
	Christine Burke	
	Robert (Zeke) Hammond	
	Richard Mank	
	Ronda Ohannesian	
Capital Program Committee	Howard Maurer	2003
	Ed Burt	2003
	Karla Hopkins (f)	2003
	James Carroll (f)	2005
Cemetery Committee	Howard Thayer	
	Roberta Simmons	2005
Central Mass. Reg. Pl. Com.	Alan Klepper *	
	Alan Ryan	
Chief Procurement Officer	Alan Klepper *	
	Daniel M. Keyes	
Committee on Disabilities	Peter Ellis, Jr.	
	Margaret Flynn	
Conservation Commission	Jennifer Weaver-Heim *..Ch	2003
	Brian Koch	
	Curtis Clark	2003
	Colleen Iacovelli	2005

		Term Expires
Constables	Victor Best	2003
	James Gardner	2003
	Richard Mank	2003
	Francis J. McVeigh, Jr.	2003
Council on Aging	Mary Challela..Ch.	
	Joan Bradbury	
	Elizabeth Bartolet	
	Barbara Delphos	
	Robert Hammond	
	Claudette Hughes	
	Annemarie Kontoff	
Council on Aging Director	Carole Mullen	
Cultural Council	AnnMarie Lockwood	
	Wilma Manning...Ch.	2003
	Elizbeth Lerner	2003
	Dorothy Suzanska	2003
	Ann Labrode	2004
	Virginia Larkin	2004
Dog Officer	John Ferrucci	2004
Finance Committee	Eugene Phillips	2003
	Karla Hopkins	2004
	Don Comastra...Ch	2005
	James Carroll	2005
Fire Chief	Scott Garland	
Gas & Plumbing Inspector	John Balanca	
Health Agent	Lenny Izzo	
Highway Department	Robert Deponte	
Historical Commission	Judith Phillips	
	Tara Taglianetti-Chambers	
	Merrily Sparling...Ch	2004
	Frederick Oldfield, III	2004
	James Kinney	
	Elaine Malloy	
Historical Documents	Robert (Zeke) Hammond	
	Frederick Oldfield, III	
	Merrily Sparling	

		Term Expires
Housing Authority Director	Katherine Consigli	
Housing Authority State Appt.	Edith Francis	2005
Local Emergency Management	Scott Garland	
Parking Fines Clerk	Donna Lamphere	
Personnel Committee	Dennis Madigan	2003
	Margaret McElroy	2004
	Harry Murphy	2004
	Albert Gray	2004
Police Chief	Eugene Costanza	
Red Shop Committee	Robert Brown	
	William Gannett	
	Merrily Sparling	
School Building Committee	David Pantano...Ch	
	Edward Burke	
	Ed Burt	
	Linda Caulkins	
	Grace Dorsey	
	Justine Tonelli	
	Jessica LeMarbe	
	Elizabeth Lerner	
	Debra Madden	
	Richard Martin	
	Howard Maurer	
School Superintendent	Andrea Hallion	
Tax Collector/Treasurer	Christine Goodwin	
Town Accountant	Sharon Emerick	
Town Coordinator	Alan Klepper *	
	Daniel Keyes	
Town Council	Kopelman & Paige	
Veterans Agent	Anthony Mastroianni	
Wiring Inspector	Albert Shimkus	
Assistant Wiring Inspector	Joseph Scanzaroli	

		Term Expires
Zoning Board of Appeals	Timothy Alger	2004
	Thomas Haynes...Ch	2005
	Louis Arcudi III	2005
	Steven Gallagher	2005
	Ross Mazzarelli	2006
Zoning Enforcement Officer	Michael Tusino	

* Alan Klepper resigned effective November 2002
* Russ Murray retired July 2002
* Jennifer Weaver-Heim resigned in 2002

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
HOPEDALE, MASSACHUSETTS

MAY 13, 2003

SELECTMAN
(3-Year Term)
*Michael Collins - 19 Tammie Road

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
(3-Year Term)
Mary Cockroft – 20 Moore Road
*Liz Lerner – 9 Moore Road
*Richard Mank – 19 Dutcher Street

LIBRARY TRUSTEE
(3-Year Term)
Albert C. Gray – 48 Mendon Street
*Katherine Wright – 15 Greene Street

HOUSING AUTHORITY
(5-Year Term)
*Robert "Zeke" Hammond – 86 Hopedale Street

WATER & SEWER COMMISSIONER
(1-Year Term)
*Harold Anderson – 10 Cemetery Street

BOARD OF HEALTH
(3-Year Term)
*Peter B. Mitchell – 93 Jones Road

MODERATOR
(3-Year Term)
*Francis J. Larkin – 36 Adin Street

PLANNING BOARD
(5-Year Term)
Failure to elect

PARK COMMISSIONER
(3-Year Term)
*Margaret "Meg" McElroy – 121 Mendon Street

ROAD COMMISSIONER
(3-Year Term)
*William Marquis – 26 Hammond Road

* - denotes winner

TOWN OF HOPEDALE – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Tuesday, November 19th, 2002 at 7:00 o'clock in the evening
in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School

Worcester SS: To the Constables in the Town of Hopedale in the County of Worcester.
Greetings: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to vote in town affairs to meet in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School on Tuesday, November 19th, 2002, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds as detailed below to pay prior year bills (pre 7/1/02), or take any other action related thereto.
Commentary: Proposed transfers (9/10th vote required.) from existing accounts total $557.75 for:

To Account	*Amount*	*From Account*	*Amount*
Call Lt. Daniel Lopez	*$15.00*	*Fire Dept.*	*$15.00*
Verizon	*$244.62*	*Cable Com.*	*$244.62*
Worcester Registry of Deeds	*$19.50*	*Assessors Dept.*	*19.50*
A. C. Moore	*$237.60*	*Parks Comm.*	*$237.60*
Mass Electric	*$41.03*	*Red Shop*	*$41.03*

Submitted by: Finance Committee **Fin. Com. Rec:**

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds such sums as may be required for various purposes, or take any other related action thereto.
Commentary: Transfers from Free Cash are expected to total $75,950 to be used as follows:

Assessors Expense Line for revaluation consulting services and Plat Map update	*$27,000*
Legal Services Line for additional services and case settlement	*$15,000*
Fire Dept. training Line for basic trauma life support and ice rescue training	*$3,950*
Road Comm. Expenses Line for Phase II Stormwater Program Plan by consultant services	*$30,000*

Submitted by: Finance Committee **Fin. Com. Rec:**

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to accept donated funds and authorize their application to the Police Department's acquisition of new police radios, and to offset the costs of other police department capital items (see Article 4) rather than be directed into the General Fund, or take any other action related thereto.
Commentary: Ch. Costanza reports pledges of over $23,380, sufficient to pay for a proposed new police radio system. This is allowed per GLc.44, §53A provided the Board of Selectmen approves.
Submitted by: Chief Costanza and Selectmen **Fin. Com. Rec:**

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds such sums as may be required for various capital projects/programs, or take any other related action thereto.
Commentary: Transfers from Free Cash are expected to total a net of $178,268 to be used as follows:

Tractor/Mower for Park Comm. and Highway Dept.	*$20,000*
3 @ Self Contained Breathing Apparatus for Fire Dept.	*$14,500*
Emergency Management Agency Equipment	*$13,000*
Replacement of Police Chief's Vehicle (Ford Expedition SUV)	*$28,583*
Replacement RADAR monitoring for traffic control for Police Dept.	*$13,385*

Supplementary funding for Sally Port
and Station renovations for Police Dept. *$88,800*
Submitted by: Selectmen and Capital Program Com. **Fin. Com. Rec:**

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by purchase or gift for general municipal purposes or eminent domain for Highway Department purposes, all right, title and interest in 1.46 acres, more or less, of railroad siding land adjacent to the Highway Barn, as described on a Plan of Land in Hopedale, MA. Owner: Grafton & Upton Railroad Company showing Hopedale Switching Yard, scale: 40 feet to an inch, dated November 4, 2002, prepared by Guerriere & Halnon, Inc., 333 West Street, Milford, MA 01757, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem appropriate, and further to see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money as may be required for this purpose, or take any other action related thereto.
Commentary: Our municipal operations are landlocked: access to the garage and fuel pumps at the rear of the Highway Dept. is via railroad land. The recent demolition of structures at the Draper Complex has removed all previous facilities served by the existing siding trackage. This acquisition will provide the Town with space for vehicle and equipment passage, parking and material storage to enable the Highway Dept. to fulfil its mission unimpeded. The professionally appraised value of $55,000 will be sought from Free Cash. (2/3rds vote is required.)
Submitted by: Road Commission and Selectmen **Fin. Com. Rec:**

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to transfer funds into or out of the Stabilization Fund, or take any other action related thereto.
Commentary: The balance of unemcumbered Free Cash is to be transferred into Stabilization.
Submitted by: Board of Selectmen **Fin. Com. Rec:**

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to transfer unappropriated state aid receipts into the Stabilization Fund, Reserve Fund or Budget lines, or take any other action related thereto:
Commentary: $259,817 of the increased Chapter 70 aid is planned for transfer into Stabilization.
Submitted by: Finance Committee **Fin. Com. Rec:**

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of GLc.59, §5K, allowing the Board of Selectmen to establish a program to allow persons over the age of 60 to volunteer to provide services for the Town in exchange for a reduction in real estate tax obligations, or take any other action related thereto.
Commentary: Hopedale initiated this successful program in 1995, prior to passage of applicable state statutes. Adopting this law will result in two immediate results: one is that the credit for the seniors' work for the town will be treated as a tax abatement (instead of taxable income), while the other is that the latest version of the law has raised the value of the abatement to $750 from the previous $500: aiding seniors for their valuable participation in our municipal operations.
Submitted by: Selectmen and Council on Aging **Fin. Com. Rec:**

ARTICLE 9: **To** see if the Town will vote to amend the Hopedale Code (nee Town Bylaw), Chapter 121 – Town Meetings, §121-15 Voice vote; standing vote, by **"**~~strikethrough~~ **and change, and adding the language in bold typeface"**, or take any other action related thereto.
§121-15: When a question is put, the sense of the meeting shall be determined by the voices of the voters and the Moderator shall declare the vote as it appears to him. If the Moderator is unable to decide the vote by the sound of the voices, or if his decision is immediately questioned by ~~ten~~ **seven** or more voters arising in their places for that purpose, he shall determine the vote by ordering a standing vote and he may appoint tellers to make and return the count. **On matters requiring a two-thirds vote of a town meeting by statute, a count need not be taken unless the vote so declared**

by the Moderator is immediately questioned by seven or more voters as provided in GLc. 39, §15, or take any other action related thereto.

Commentary: This addition will avoid the requirement for a detailed count when it is obvious to the Moderator that a two-thirds vote has been registered. State law prescribes 7 instead of 10 voters as contained in the existing bylaw, to require a standing vote.

Submitted by: Town Clerk **Fin. Com. Rec:**

You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the three public places in different parts of the Town not less than fourteen days before the holding of said meeting. Hereof fail not to make the due return of the meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 4th day of November 2002.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Michael E. Collins, Chm. Michael A. Milanoski Alan J. Ryan

A True Copy, ATTEST: Ronald Ohannesio

Posted in the Town Hall, Community House, and Post Office Lobby.

Constable Nov. 4, 2002 Date

STM111902

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WORCESTER, SS.
TOWN OF HOPEDALE
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
NOVEMBER 19, 2002

MINUTES

The inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, met in the auditorium of the JR/SR High School. At 7:00PM, Moderator Francis J. Larkin called the meeting to order and declared a quorum (50) present. The meeting was called under the authority of a Warrant dated November 4th with a Return of Service dated November 4th.

Moderator Larkin noted the death of Edwin Howard. Mr. Howard had been the Town Moderator for 30 years, 1956 – 1988.

He also noted Town Coordinator Allan Klepper for his five years with the Board of Selectmen and Hopedale. Mr. Klepper took a job as Town Manager for Uxbridge.

The Moderator asked for a motion to give privileges of the floor to the following officials living outside Hopedale:

Fire Chief	Scott Garland
Police Chief	Gene Costanza
Kopelman & Paige	Joyce Frank
Superintendent of Schools	Andrea Hallion
Treasurer/Tax Collector	Christine Goodwin
Town Accountant	Sharon Emerick

ARTICLE 1: Don Comastra, Chair of the FIN/COM moved to transfer $557.75 from the following accounts to pay prior year bills: (9/10th vote required)

To Account	Amount	From Account	Amount
Call Lt. Daniel Lopez	$15.00	Fire Dept.	$15.00
Verizon	244.62	Cable Comm.	244.62
Worcester Reg. Of Deeds	19.50	Assessors Dept.	19.50
A.C. Moore	237.60	Parks Comm.	237.60
Mass. Electric	41.03	Red Shop	41.03

Motion Seconded and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 2: Don Comastra moved to transfer $80,100 from Free Cash to the following accounts:

Assessors Expense Line for revaluation consulting Services and Plat Map update	$27,000
Legal Services Line for additional services and case settlement	$15,000
Fire Dept. training Line for basic trauma life support and ice rescue training	$3,950
Road Comm. Expenses Line for Phase II Stormwater Program Plan by consultant services	$30,000

Motion seconded and voted unanimously.

ARTICLE 3: Police Chief Gene Costanza moved to see if the Town will vote to accept donated funds and authorize their application to the Police Department's acquisition of new police radios, and to offset the costs of other police department capital items (see Article 4) rather than be directed into the General Fund, or take any other action related thereto.

Motion duly seconded and voted unanimously in favor, as declared by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 4: Karla Hopkins moved to see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds such sums as may be required for various capital projects/programs, or take any other related action thereto.

Commentary: Transfers from Free Cash are expected to total a net of $178,268 to be used as follows:

Tractor/Mower for Park Comm. and Highway Dept.	$20,000
3 @ Self Contained Breathing Apparatus for Fire Dept.	$14,500
Replacement of Police Chief's Vehicle (Ford Expedition SUV)	$25,000
Replacement RADAR monitoring for traffic control for Police Dept.	$13,385

Motion seconded.

Officer Rick Mank moved to **amend** the Article to include the 4 items just moved plus the 3 additional items;

Emergency Management Agency Equipment	$13,000.
Replacement of Police Chief's Vehicle(Expedition)	28,583.
Supplementary funding for Sally Port And Station renovations for Police Dept.	88,800.

Amendment Motion seconded.

Karla gave a brief explanation. Don Comastra also explained. The Police Chief explained the difference between Explorer and Expedition (cars).

After much discussion, another **motion came for a Secret Ballot.**

Motion seconded and voted. The motion was not carried as declared by the Moderator. There will be no Secret Ballot.

A Motion was made for a standing count. Seconded and motion carried.

After more discussion Fire Chief Scott Garland **moved** to remove the $13,000. Emerg. Management Agency Equipment to support the Police.

Seconded and carried as declared by the Moderator.

A vote was taken on the Amendment to include the $3,583. for the Expedition/Police Chief and the $88,800 for the Sally Port.

Amendment passed by standing count as declared by the Moderator. (As the amendment included the 3 (minus the 13,000) items on Article 4, plus the amended items, there is no other vote necessary).

ARTICLE 5: Selectman Chair Mike Collins moved to pass over this article.
Motion seconded and voted unanimously to pass over.
(Action on this article should be delayed until the new Town Coordinator is on board and some unanswered questions are resolved.)

ARTICLE 6: Mike Collins moved to see if the Town will vote to amend the action taken on Article 8 of the Annual Town Meeting on May 7, 2002 reducing by $90,699 the sum transferred from Stabilization to offset the FY03 tax rate from the original $439,060 to as amended $348,361and further that the Town transfer from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund the sum of $218,274 (2/3 vote required).

Motion duly seconded and voted unanimously, as declared by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 7: Mike Collins moved to **pass over** this article.

Motion seconded and voted unanimously.

ARTICLE 8 Carole Mullen, Council on Aging Director, moved to see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of GLc.59, §5K, allowing the Board of Selectmen to establish a program to allow persons over the age of 60 to volunteer to provide services for the Town in exchange for a reduction in real estate tax obligations, or take any other action related thereto.
Commentary: Hopedale initiated this successful program in 1995, prior to passage of applicable state statutes. Adopting this law will result in two immediate results: one is that the credit for the seniors' work for the town will be treated as a tax abatement (instead of taxable income), while the other is that the latest version of the law has raised the value of the abatement to $750 from the previous $500: aiding seniors for their valuable participation in our municipal operations.
Motion duly seconded and votes unanimously.
ARTICLE 9: The Moderator moved to see if the Town will vote to amend the Hopedale Code (nee Town Bylaw), Chapter 121 – Town Meetings, §121-15 Voice vote; standing vote, by "~~strikethrough~~ and change, and adding the language in bold typeface", or take any other action related thereto.
§121-15: When a question is put, the sense of the meeting shall be determined by the voices of the voters and the Moderator shall declare the vote as it appears to him. If the Moderator is unable to decide the vote by the sound of the voices, or if his decision is immediately questioned by ~~ten~~ seven or more voters arising in their places for that purpose, he shall determine the vote by ordering a standing vote and he may appoint tellers to make and return the count. On matters requiring a two-thirds vote of a town meeting by statute, a count need not be taken unless the vote so declared by the Moderator is immediately questioned by seven or more voters as provided in GLc. 39, §15, or take any other action related thereto.
Commentary: This addition will avoid the requirement for a detailed count when it is obvious to the Moderator that a two-thirds vote has been registered. State law prescribes 7 instead of 10 voters as contained in the existing bylaw, to require a standing vote.
Motion duly seconded. Briefly discussed and passed unanimously.
A motion was made to dissolve the Warrant @ 7:51 PM. Seconded and voted unanimously.

GOODNIGHT HOPEDALE!

TOWN OF HOPEDALE – ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Tuesday, April 8th, 2003 at 7:00 o'clock in the evening
in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School

Worcester SS: To the Constables in the Town of Hopedale in the County of Worcester. Greetings: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to vote in town affairs to meet in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School on Tuesday, April 8th, 2003, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to hear and act upon the report of the Selectmen and other offices, departments, or committees of said town, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to GLc.41, §108 to fix the annual salary and compensation for each elected Town officer and further to see if the Town will vote to fix the annual compensation for special appointed officials for his/her service in fiscal year 2004, or take any other action related thereto.
Commentary: The proposed amounts are:

Position	*Total Compensation for Position(s)*
Town Moderator (1)	*$200*
Board of Selectmen (3)	*$6,500*
*Town Clerk (1)**	*$22,292*
Road Commissioners (3)	*$2,200*
Board of Health (3)	*$1,850*
Park Commissioners (3)	*$1,600*
Water/Sewer Commissioners (3)	*$1,600*
Tree Warden (1)	*$1000*
Planning Board (5)	*$3,700*
Board of Assessors (3) appt.	*$4,100*
Board of Registrars (3) appt.	*$1,600*
Clerk to Registrars (1)	*$500*
Zoning Board of Appeals (5) appt.	*$1,300*
Finance Committee (9) appt.	*$950*

** Town Clerk is paid weekly; all others twice per year.*

The School Committee compensation for 5 totaling $5,500 is contained in the School Department Budget.
Submitted by: Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through assessments provided under GLc.83, §16, and to be collected under GLc.44, §53E, bond issue payments of $91,245 for the Sewer Department, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Water and Sewer Commissioners

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Town Bylaw, Chapter XXII-B, The Personnel Administration Bylaw, to adjust the percentage applicable to the compensation plan, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Cable Access Revolving Account to the General Fund to defray Cable Access Committee operations for Fiscal Year 2004 as contained in the Finance Committee Budget Report, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available Treasury funds, such sums of money as deemed necessary to defray Town charges for Fiscal Year 2004 as contained in the Finance Committee Budget Report, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of monies into the Reserve Fund, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of monies into and/or out of the Stabilization Fund as provided under GLc.40, §5B, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the continued use of a revolving fund pursuant to GLc.44, §53E½ for the purpose of funding a hazardous waste collection day and recycling program to include composting and yard waste and other related costs, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the Board of Health to be expended under the authority of the Board of Health, such expenditures not to exceed $30,000 for the fiscal year 2004; or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Board of Health

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the continued use of a revolving fund pursuant to GLc.44, §53E½ for the purpose of funding the operating costs of the animal control division of the Hopedale Board of Health, which fund will be credited with receipts for the boarding of stray animals, fines for violations, and the licensing of animals, to be expended under the authority of the Board of Health, such expenditures not to exceed $10,000 for the fiscal year 2004; or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Board of Health

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Conservation Commission to spend without further appropriation in accordance with GLc.131, §40 certain sums as received in filing fees from prior fiscal years, for the fiscal year 2004, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Conservation Commission

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of Chapter 90 State reimbursement funds for the purpose of providing road paving/improvement projects, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Road Commissioners

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to approve the transfer a sum of money from Water Retained Earnings to the Water Department operating budget, or take any other action related thereto:
Submitted by: Water & Sewer Commission

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to approve the transfer of $38,809 from Water Retained Earnings for the water main replacement program for the MWRAT, or take any other action related thereto:
Submitted by: Water & Sewer Commission

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of GLc.44, §53F1/2 and to establish an Enterprise Fund for the Water Department effective FY04, or take any other action related thereto:
Submitted by: Water & Sewer Commission

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $281,500 by taxation for engineering studies, architectural services and restoration costs for the "Red Shop", or take any other action related thereto:
Submitted by: Red Shop Committee

You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the three public places in different parts of the Town not less than seven days before the holding of said meeting. Hereof fail not to make the due return of the meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 25th day of March 2003.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Michael A. Milanoski | Michael E. Collins, Chairman | Alan J. Ryan

A True Copy, ATTEST: Ronda L. Ohannessian

Posted in the Town Hall, Community House, and Post Office Lobby.

#76 — 032503

Constable — Date

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TOWN OF HOPEDALE – 4/8/03 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MINUTES

The inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to vote in elections and town affairs met in the Auditorium of the Jr./Sr. High School at 7:00 PM. At 7:10 PM a quorum (50) was reached and the Moderator declared the meeting open. The meeting was called under the authority of a Warrant dated March 25, 2003.

Moderator Francis J. Larkin led the Pledge of Allegiance. He then called for a motion to allow the following out-of-town officials privileges of the floor:

Chief of Police Gene Costanza	**Chief of Fire Scott Garland**
Superintendent Andrea Hallion	**Town Accountant, Sharon Emerick**
Treasurer, Christine Goodwin	**Town Council Joyce Franks**
Town Coordinator, Dan Keyes	**Water & Sewer, Tim Watson**

Moved, seconded and voted unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

Moderator Larkin introduced Merrily Sparling, Chair of the Historic Commission. Merrily explained that on April 26th the Historic Committee is sponsoring a day to celebrate Hopedale's rich history and acceptance as an Historic District.

Moderator Larkin explained the differences between the Annual and Special Town Meetings. Annual takes care of business for the future while Special takes care of past money matters.

Moderator called for a motion to recess Annual Town Meeting. Motion Seconded and voted unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

Annual recessed.

Annual Reconvened @ 7:40 PM by the Moderator.

Michael Collins, Chair of the Selectman, read passages from Marie Parente, particularly related to the budget woes of the State.

A motion was made to pass over all Articles in the Annual Town Meeting.

Motion seconded, and voted unanimously to pass over.

A motion was made to Adjourn the Annual Town Meeting until Tuesday, June 24th @ 7:00 PM.

Motion seconded and passed unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 1: I move to hear and act upon the report of the Selectmen and other offices, departments, or committees of said town, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 2: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to GLc.41, §108 to fix the annual salary and compensation for each elected Town officer and further to see if the Town will vote to fix the annual compensation for special appointed officials for his/her service in fiscal year 2004, or take any other action related thereto.
Commentary: The proposed amounts are:

Position	*Total Compensation for Position(s)*
Town Moderator (1)	*$200*
Board of Selectmen (3)	*$6,500*
*Town Clerk (1)**	*$22,292*
Road Commissioners (3)	*$2,200*
Board of Health (3)	*$1,850*
Park Commissioners (3)	*$1,600*
Water/Sewer Commissioners (3)	*$1,600*
Tree Warden (1)	*$1000*
Planning Board (5)	*$3,700*
Board of Assessors (3) appt.	*$4,100*
Board of Registrars (3) appt.	*$1,600*
Clerk to Registrars (1)	*$500*
Zoning Board of Appeals (5) appt.	*$1,300*
Finance Committee (9) appt.	*$950*

** Town Clerk is paid weekly; all others twice per year.*

The School Committee compensation for 5 totaling $5,500 is contained in the School Department Budget.

Submitted by: Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 3: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through assessments provided under GLc.83, §16, and to be collected under GLc.44, §53E, bond issue payments of $91,245 for the Sewer Department, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Water and Sewer Commissioners

ARTICLE 4: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Town Bylaw, Chapter XXII-B, The Personnel Administration Bylaw, to adjust the percentage applicable to the compensation plan, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 5: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Cable Access Revolving Account to the General Fund to defray Cable Access Committee operations for Fiscal Year 2004 as contained in the Finance Committee Budget Report, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 6: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available Treasury funds, such sums of money as deemed necessary to defray Town charges for Fiscal Year 2004 as contained in the Finance Committee Budget Report, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 7: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of monies into the Reserve Fund, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 8: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of monies into and/or out of the Stabilization Fund as provided under GLc.40, §5B, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 9: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the continued use of a revolving fund pursuant to GLc.44, §53E½ for the purpose of funding a hazardous waste collection day and recycling program to include composting and yard waste and other related costs, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the Board of Health to be expended under the authority of the Board of Health, such expenditures not to exceed $30,000 for the fiscal year 2004; or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Board of Health

ARTICLE 10: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the continued use of a revolving fund pursuant to GLc.44, §53E½ for the purpose of funding the operating costs of the animal control division of the Hopedale Board of Health, which fund will be credited with receipts for the boarding of stray animals, fines for violations, and the licensing of animals, to be expended under the authority of the Board of Health, such expenditures not to exceed $10,000 for the fiscal year 2004; or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Board of Health

ARTICLE 11: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Conservation Commission to spend without further appropriation in accordance with GLc.131, §40 certain sums as received in filing fees from prior fiscal years, for the fiscal year 2004, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Conservation Commission

ARTICLE 12: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of Chapter 90 State reimbursement funds for the purpose of providing road paving/improvement projects, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Road Commissioners

ARTICLE 13: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to approve the transfer a sum of money from Water Retained Earnings to the Water Department operating budget, or take any other action related thereto:
Submitted by: Water & Sewer Commission

ARTICLE 14: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to approve the transfer of $38,809 from Water Retained Earnings for the water main replacement program for the MWRAT, or take any other action related thereto:
Submitted by: Water & Sewer Commission

ARTICLE 15: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of GLc.44, §53F1/2 and to establish an Enterprise Fund for the Water Department effective FY04, or take any other action related thereto:
Submitted by: Water & Sewer Commission

ARTICLE 16: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $281,500 by taxation for engineering studies, architectural services and restoration costs for the "Red Shop", or take any other action related thereto:
Submitted by: Red Shop Committee

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TOWN OF HOPEDALE – 6/24/03 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

ARTICLE 1: I move to hear and act upon the report of the Selectmen and other offices, departments, or committees of said town, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 2: I move, pursuant to GLc.41, §108 to fix the annual salary and compensation for each elected Town officer and to fix the annual compensation for special appointed officials for their services in fiscal year 2004 as follows:

Position	*Total Compensation for Position(s)*
Town Moderator (1)	*$200*
Board of Selectmen (3)	*$6,500*
Town Clerk (1)	*$23,072*
Road Commissioners (3)	*$2,200*
Board of Health (3)	*$1,850*
Park Commissioners (3)	*$1,600*
Water/Sewer Commissioners (3)	*$1,600*
Tree Warden (1)	*$1000*
Planning Board (5)	*$3,700*
Board of Assessors (3) appt.	*$4,100*
Board of Registrars (3) appt.	*$1,600*
Clerk to Registrars (1)	*$500*
Zoning Board of Appeals (5) appt.	*$1,300*
Finance Committee (9) appt.	*$950*

ARTICLE 3: I move to raise and appropriate through assessments provided under GLc.83, §16, and to be collected under GLc.44, §53E, bond issue payments in the sum of $91,245 for the Sewer Department

ARTICLE 4: I move, pursuant to Town Bylaw, Chapter XXII-B, The Personnel Administration Bylaw, to adjust the percentage applicable to the compensation plan as follows:

ARTICLE 5: I move to transfer $47,000 from the Cable Access Revolving Account to the General Fund to defray Cable Access Committee operations for Fiscal Year 2004 as contained in the Finance Committee Budget Report.

ARTICLE 6: I move to raise and appropriate $15,411,779 and transfer $487,485 from Water Retained Earnings, $399,931 from Sewer Retained Earnings, $123,954 from Ambulance Receipts Reserved, and $9,650 from Overlay Surplus to defray Town charges for Fiscal Year 2004 as contained in the Finance Committee Budget Report.

ARTICLE 7: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of monies into the Reserve Fund.

ARTICLE 8: I move to transfer $469,490 out of the Stabilization Fund as provided under GLc.40, §5B.

ARTICLE 9: I move to authorize the continued use of a revolving fund pursuant to GLc.44, §53E½ for the purpose of funding a hazardous waste collection day and recycling program to include composting and yard waste and other related costs, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the Board of Health to be expended under the authority of the Board of Health, such expenditures not to exceed $30,000 for the fiscal year 2004.

ARTICLE 10: I move to authorize the continued use of a revolving fund pursuant to GLc.44, §53E½ for the purpose of funding the operating costs of the animal control division of the Hopedale Board of Health, which fund will be credited with receipts for the boarding of stray animals, fines for violations, and the licensing of animals, to be expended under the authority of the Board of Health, such expenditures not to exceed $10,000 for the fiscal year 2004.

ARTICLE 11: I move to authorize the Conservation Commission to spend without further appropriation in accordance with GLc.131, §40 certain sums as received in filing fees from prior fiscal years, for the fiscal year 2004.

ARTICLE 12: I move to authorize the Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of Chapter 90 State reimbursement funds for the purpose of providing road paving/improvement projects.

ARTICLE 13: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to approve the transfer of a sum of money from Water Retained Earnings to the Water Department operating budget.

ARTICLE 14: I move to approve the transfer of $38,809 from Water Retained Earnings for the water main replacement program for the MWRAT.

ARTICLE 15: I move to accept the provisions of GLc.44, §53F1/2 and to establish an Enterprise Fund for the Water Department effective FY04.

ARTICLE 16: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $281,500 by taxation for engineering studies, architectural services and restoration costs for the "Red Shop", or take any other action related thereto:
Submitted by: Red Shop Committee

TOWN OF HOPEDALE
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
FY2003 and FY2004

Tuesday, June 24th, 2003 at 7:00 o'clock in the evening
in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School

Worcester SS: To the Constables in the Town of Hopedale in the County of Worcester. Greetings: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to vote in town affairs to meet in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School on Tuesday, June 24th, 2003, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening then and there to act on the following articles:

FY2003

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds as detailed below to pay prior year bills (pre 7/1/02), or take any other action related thereto.
Commentary: Proposed transfers (9/10th vote required.) from existing accounts total $ for:

To Account	*Amount*	*From Account*	*Amount*
	$		$
	$		$
	$		$
	$		$
	$		$

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to transfer $6,000 from *health insurance account* to the Library budget for the purpose of scraping, treating and painting all exterior trim, doors and side canopy including the removal and replacement of storm windows of the Bancroft Memorial Library.
Submitted by: Library Board of Trustees

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds $15,896 in additional expenditure for repairs to the Police Station, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Board of Selectmen

FY2004

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Mass. G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 41C, setting modified criteria seniors must meet to qualify for property tax examptions, and further to see if the Town will vote, as authorized under Section 51 of Chapter 184 of the Acts of 2002 of the General Court, to increase the availability of tax exemptions to senior citizens owning real property in the Town of Hopedale, by approving the following:

1. Increasing the maximum gross income, currently set by said clause 41C at $13,000 for individuals and $15,000 if married, to $20,000 for individuals and $30,000 if married:

2. Increasing the maximum allowable assets, currently set by said clause 41C at $28,000 for individuals and $30,000 if married, to $40,000 for individuals and $55,000 if married

or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Board of Assessors

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Mass. G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 41D to allow for Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) to the gross receipts (income) and whole estate (asset) limits applied to applicants for Senior Exemptions under Mass. G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 41C, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Board of Assessors

$139,000.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will appropriate ~~$300,000~~ for the restoration of the Red Shop through taxation or other sources on condition of the award of a Massachusetts Preservation Project Fund Grant.
Submitted by: Red Shop Committee
Supported by: Historical Commission

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will accept the award of a Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund Grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission if awarded, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Red Shop Committee
Supported by: Historical Commission

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will approve the restoration of the Red Shop in accordance with ground disturbance regulations on historic or archaelogical sites, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Red Shop Committee
Supported by: Historical Commission

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to transfer $67,000 from the Stabilization Account to refurbish a Fire Department pumper truck, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Capital Planning Committee

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to transfer $60,000 from the Stabilization Account for a leaf picker for the Highway Department, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Capital Planning Committee

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to transfer $33,668 from the Stabilization Account for a pickup truck for the Highway Department, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Capital Planning Committee

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to transfer $15,000 from the Stabilization Account for a Jaws of Life, a meter and a saw for the Fire Department, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Capital Planning Committee

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to transfer $65,000 from the Stabilization Account for the Red Shop reconstruction project contingent on a matching grant, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Capital Planning Committee

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise and to accept the deed to the Town of a fee simple interest or lesser interest in all or a portion of the parcel of land described below, now or formerly owned by the Grafton & Upton Railroad and shown on the Assessors map as parcel 11-63-0, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be appropriate, for municipal purposes.

And further to see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, transfer from available funds, accept gifts or borrow a sum of money for this purpose and any expenses related thereto and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and take all realted actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this acquisition, or act or transact anything in relation thereto.
Submitted by: Board of Selectmen

You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the three public places in different parts of the Town not less than seven days before the holding of said meeting. Hereof fail not to make the due return of the meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 2nd day of June 2003.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Michael A. Milanoski | Michael E. Collins, Chairman | Alan J. Ryan

A True Copy, ATTEST: Ronda S. Ohannessy

Posted in the Town Hall, Community House, and Post Office Lobby.

Lt James Gardner #8 — Constable

06 10 03 — Date

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TOWN OF HOPEDALE – 4/8/03 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MINUTES

The inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to vote in elections and town affairs met in the Auditorium of the Jr./Sr. High School at 7:00 PM. At 7:10 PM a quorum (50) was reached and the Moderator declared the meeting open. The meeting was called under the authority of a Warrant dated March 25, 2003.

Moderator Francis J. Larkin led the Pledge of Allegiance. He then called for a motion to allow the following out-of-town officials privileges of the floor:

Chief of Police Gene Costanza	**Chief of Fire Scott Garland**
Superintendent Andrea Hallion	**Town Accountant, Sharon Emerick**
Treasurer, Christine Goodwin	**Town Council Joyce Franks**
Town Coordinator, Dan Keyes	**Water & Sewer, Tim Watson**

Moved, seconded and voted unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

Moderator Larkin introduced Merrily Sparling, Chair of the Historic Commission. Merrily explained that on April 26th the Historic Committee is sponsoring a day to celebrate Hopedale's rich history and acceptance as an Historic District.

Moderator Larkin explained the differences between the Annual and Special Town Meetings. Annual takes care of business for the future while Special takes care of past money matters.

Moderator called for a motion to recess Annual Town Meeting. Motion Seconded and voted unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

Annual recessed.

Annual Reconvened @ 7:40 PM by the Moderator.

Michael Collins, Chair of the Selectman. read passages from Marie Parente, particularly related to the budget woes of the State.

A motion was made to pass over all Articles in the Annual Town Meeting.

Motion seconded, and voted unanimously to pass over.

A motion was made to Adjourn the Annual Town Meeting until Tuesday, June 24th @ 7:00 PM.

Motion seconded and passed unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

TOWN OF HOPEDALE – 6/24/03 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT MOTIONS

FY2003

ARTICLE 1: I move to transfer $63,941 from certain accounts to other accounts to adjust the fiscal year 2003 operating budget as follows:

To Account	*Amount*	*From Account*	*Amount*
Coordinator Part-time salary	*$320*	*Coordinator Salary*	*$320*
Police Sally Port	*$15,896*	*Police Salaries*	*$12,000*
Police Sally Port		*Police Overtime*	*$3,896*
Fire Retainers	*$2,200*	*Reserve Fund*	*$2,200*
Fire Overtime	*$6,500*	*County Tax*	*$6,500*
Fire Expense	*$3,500*	*Health Insurance*	*$3,500*
Ambulance Overtime	*$1,600*	*Ambulance Rec.Res'd*	*$1,600*
Ambulance Duty Shift	*$9,000*	*Ambulance Rec.Res'd*	*$9,000*
Ambulance Expense	*$750*	*Ambulance Rec.Res'd*	*$750*
Street Lighting	*$350*	*Dog Officer Salary*	*$350*
Highway Overtime	*$1,300*	*Veterans Benefits*	*$1,300*
Library Prof & Tech	*$6,000*	*Library Salaries*	*$6,000*
Unemployment	*$1,000*	*Health Insurance*	*$1,000*
Town Detail	*$1,000*	*Health Insurance*	*$1,000*
Water Overtime	*$8,000*	*Water Retained Earn.*	*$8,000*
Sewer Salaries	*$525*	*Sewer Retained Earn.*	*$525*
Library Windows	*$6,000*	*Reserve Fund*	*$6,000*

ARTICLE 2: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to transfer $6,000 from *health insurance account* to the Library budget for the purpose of scraping, treating and painting all exterior trim, doors and side canopy including the removal and replacement of storm windows of the Bancroft Memorial Library.
Submitted by: Library Board of Trustees

ARTICLE 3: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds $15,896 in additional expenditure for repairs to the Police Station.

FY2004

ARTICLE 4: I move to accept the provisions of Mass. G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 41C, setting modified criteria seniors must meet to qualify for property tax examptions, and further that the Town vote, as authorized under Section 51 of Chapter 184 of the Acts of 2002 of the General Court, to increase the availability of tax exemptions to senior citizens owning real property in the Town of Hopedale, by approving the following:

1. Increasing the maximum gross income, currently set by said clause 41C at $13,000 for individuals and $15,000 if married, to $20,000 for individuals and $30,000 if married:
2. Increasing the maximum allowable assets, currently set by said clause 41C at $28,000 for individuals and $30,000 if married, to $40,000 for individuals and $55,000 if married

ARTICLE 5: I move to accept the provisions of Mass. G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 41D to allow for Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) to the gross receipts (income) and whole estate (asset) limits applied to applicants for Senior Exemptions under Mass. G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 41C.

ARTICLE 6: I move to ~~raise and appropriate~~ transfer fr Stabilization $139,000 for the restoration of the Red Shop through taxation or other sources on condition of the award of a Massachusetts Preservation Project Fund Grant.

ARTICLE 7: I move to accept the award of a Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund Grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission if awarded.

ARTICLE 8: I move to approve the restoration of the Red Shop in accordance with ground disturbance regulations on historic or archaelogical sites.

ARTICLE 9: I move to transfer $67,000 from the Stabilization Account to refurbish a Fire Department pumper truck.

ARTICLE 10: I move to transfer $40,000 from the Stabilization Account for a leaf picker for the Highway Department.

ARTICLE 11: I move to transfer $33,668 from the Stabilization Account for a pickup truck for the Highway Department.

ARTICLE 12: I move transfer $15,000 from the Stabilization Account for a Jaws of Life, a meter and a saw for the Fire Department.

ARTICLE 13: I move to Pass Over this Article. To see if the Town will vote to transfer $65,000 from the Stabilization Account for the Red Shop reconstruction project contingent on a matching grant.

ARTICLE 14: I move to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise and to accept the deed to the Town of a fee simple interest or lesser interest in all or a portion of the parcel of land now or formerly owned by the Grafton & Upton Railroad and shown on the Assessors map as parcel 11-63-0, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be appropriate, for municipal purposes.

Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District
FY 2003 Annual Report

About Our School Committee

The Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee sets the framework for the successes shared within this report. Not only are these elected officials highly familiar with the challenge of providing academic lessons to our students, but they are also highly familiar with the vocational technical lessons inherent in our curriculum.

Discussions and deliberations are enhanced by the diversified daytime occupational experiences of the school committee members. Our school committee, consisting of machinists, business owners, utilities specialists, health benefit analysts, business administrators, carpenters, educators, engineers, auto body technicians, and firefighters, is always looking for new, creative, and cost effective ways to support student ambitions while ensuring our taxpayers see a return on their investment.

E. Kevin Harvey of Bellingham, Chairman
Matthew C. Krajewski of Blackstone
John C. Lavin, III of Douglas
Anthony M. Yitts of Grafton
Robert S. Metcalf of Hopedale
Michael D. Peterson of Mendon, Assistant Treasurer
Arthur E. Morin, Jr. of Milford
Chester P. Hanratty, Jr. of Millbury
Gerald M. Finn of Millville, Vice-Chairman
Joan A. Gautreau of Northbridge
Mitchell A. Intinarelli of Sutton
Kenneth M. Pedersen, Jr. of Upton
Daniel L. Baker of Uxbridge, Secretary

Treasurer ***Barbara A. Auger.***

Special thanks to former school committee members ***Everett Young***, of Hopedale, and ***Robert Snow***, of Upton, for their many years of distinguished service to Valley Tech and to their communities.

Submitted by the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee and Superintendent-Director Michael F. Fitzpatrick

From the Superintendent-Director...

This report details the highlights of our fiscal year, July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003, and comes to you as notification of the hard work, effort, and determination displayed by our administrative team, our staff members, and our students.

We at Valley Tech take seriously the need to be accountable to our investors - our shareholders if you will - namely the taxpayers of the 13 towns that support our initiatives each year. Moreover, we embrace this opportunity to share measured growth with you and to reaffirm the ever-constant request for input to improve our award-winning system in each and every way we can.

Perhaps tops among the many high points of the year was the admirable performance of our senior class, which achieved a 99.5% passing score on the state mandated MCAS tests, the highest of any vocational-technical school and among the highest of any traditional high school in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Valley Tech teachers and support staff are a critical part of this success story, as is the work of the students themselves. I have enjoyed the opportunity to know these students firsthand and wasn't one bit surprised at their impressive performance on the tests.

Preparing a student academically, technically, socially, and emotionally is a large undertaking. We do not accomplish it alone. The help of entities such as the School Based Health Center, a collaborative effort between Valley Tech and Milford-Whitinsville Regional Hospital dedicated to educating students on the importance of mental and physical health and fitness, plays an important role in our story of success.

As that success story continues, we will continue to fill a vital role in the economic engine of the Blackstone Valley, producing well-educated and well-trained graduates ready to enter the workforce and/or pursue higher academic and technical degrees. Perhaps that is why some community members have called Valley Tech the gem of the Blackstone Valley.

Indeed, the future looks bright for Valley Tech. Our expansion and renovation of the Valley Tech learning facility is now underway, our school committee continues to provide leadership and experience in our journey to succeed, and our recognition as a Compass School by the state Department of Education reaffirms that we are on the right path to succeeding in our mission to educate our students for a global advantage.

Best regards,

Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick
Superintendent-Director

$36 million Construction/Renovation of Valley Tech is underway, Green Schools Initiative provides added boost...

Valley Tech broke ground Friday, May 16, 2003 on its $36 million expansion and renovation project. More than 200 people attended the ceremony, which kicked off the rehabilitation of a facility that dates to the 1960s. In addition to providing for a much needed facelift, the project will add 14 new classrooms, three new vocational-technical programs, and a 1,400-seat competition center to the campus.

Valley Tech named Compass School

The Massachusetts Department of Education analyzed more than 150 school systems before selecting Valley Tech to serve as a 2003 Commonwealth Compass School. The Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District will be recognized and celebrated for its school wide improvements, and will be charged with disseminating information and sharing its ideas, practices, and models for success with other school systems across the state. The Compass School award comes with a $10,000 grant.

Valley Tech wins Gold at National SkillsUSA-VICA Conference

Valley Tech's Erin Woodward earned a gold medal and Jason Irr took home a bronze in the 39th Annual SkillsUSA-VICA National Leadership and Skills Conference, held June 24-27 in Kansas City. Erin, a junior, is the second national gold medal winner in Valley Tech history and the first in the culinary arts program. Similar to the National Honor Society, SkillsUSA-VICA is the national organization for students in trade, industrial, technical, and health occupation educational fields.

Athletic teams represent Valley Tech well in community

The Valley Tech High School boys varsity basketball team received the 2002-2003 Massachusetts Alliance for the Promotion of Sportsmanship Award and the team also received the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association's team sportsmanship award. Valley Tech earned the recognition for its display of sportsmanship and courage as teammate Alex Stansky battled an incurable form of cancer.

The Valley Tech cross country teams competed in the 7th Annual Walt Disney World Cross Country Classic in Orlando, FL.

Valley Tech's golf team won its fifth consecutive Colonial Athletic League title. The team also won the state vocational championship and placed fifth in the Central Mass. Division 3 Golf Tournament. Valley Tech has won 47 straight league matches.

Students and Staff continue to achieve success...

The Providence Graphic Arts Association named Ashley Courtemanche the recipient of the group's 2003 Outstanding Graphic Arts Student award. The award, presented at the group's awards banquet, highlighted a night in which Valley Tech students took home 15 awards.

Students Brandon Drake, Joshua Geary, Sean Lucier, Sandy Spaulding, and Robert Felice received national recognition for their design and construction of an aluminum dog sled. The sled, entered into the 2002 James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation School Shop Awards Program, won the Division I Region I Silver Award and was featured in the 2003 awards program brochure, distributed across the nation.

Automotive students Mike Landry and James Bengston earned the High Written Trophy in the Massachusetts Auto Dealers Technology Competition.

Valley Tech biology teacher Francine Breger was one of seven finalists for the Worcester Polytechnic Institute's Technological Humanist Award. Mrs. Breger placed fourth and received $500 to be spent in her classroom.

Investing in our students...

In FY2003, Valley Tech secured more than $1 million in public and private grants and donations, a 24 percent increase from FY2002. The additional funding meant an extra $1,156 was spent helping to educate each of our 900 students. The investment is paying off as members of the Class of 2003 secured, on average, more than $1,500 per student for college scholarships.

Valley Tech makes a return on the community's investment...

A cornerstone of Valley Tech's success has been our commitment to the community. This year, 1,032 community service projects were completed, saving the district and member towns nearly $300,000. The year saw the completion of a house building project in Douglas for the Brosnahan family. Other projects included town signage, the painting of municipal offices, the repair of town vehicles, and the production of park picnic tables.

The Annual Superintendent's Dinner was again a success, as was the fifth annual charity golf tournament. Proceeds from both events were used to enhance student services, for extra curricular activities, and for student scholarships.

13 towns unanimously approve Valley Tech budget

For the fifth year in a row, the thirteen towns that make up the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District have unanimously approved Valley Tech's budget request. The arduous process was made even more difficult with the delays and changes in this year's state budget figures. Also making this year's budget process more complicated than usual was the 18 percent cut in state aid to Valley Tech.

Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge voted in favor of fully funding Valley Tech's requested budget amount, approving a $6.4 million contribution to Valley Tech's $12.7 million operating budget. Valley Tech receives $4.6 million in state aid and more than $1 million in grants, gifts and donations.

The Class of 2003

Blackstone Valley Tech's 194 graduates included Hopedale's Kevin Antonuccio, Manufacturing Technologies; Kristine Flood, Culinary Arts; Heather Payton, Office Technology; and Joshua Rozak; Culinary Arts.

Office of

BOARD OF HEALTH

Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747
(508) 634-2203 ext. 22

The Board of Health submits it's annual report of the year ending June 30, 2003.

Once again the Board of Health found itself inundated with a variety of requests and duties and the continued building boom added to an already heavy load.

The 3 member elected board; Peter B. Mitchell, Elizabeth A. Sales and Robert M. Moro grants variances, holds hearings on non-compliance orders, and promulgates Board of Health Regulations and Policies. The board holds meetings on the 3 rd Thursday of each month. The Board of Health's responsibilities continues to be all encompassing and ever expanding.

It is our responsibility to enforce all public health regulations related to the State Sanitary Health Codes, State and Federal and enforce any local regulations promulgated by the Board of Health members.

The main issues we deal with on a day-to-day basis include septic design and installations, housing complaints, trash and nuisance complaints, food establishment, odor and noise complaints and beach water quality. We also investigate rabies issues, asbestos concerns, West Nile Virus concerns and issue burial permits. The board also conducts Health Clinics in conjunction with the Visiting Nurses. We issue licenses for all installers, well permits, camp permits and answer other issued remotely connected to public health, issue Tobacco Licenses, and conducts compliance checks on establishments that sell tobacco products.

The board was faced with enforcing new regulations regarding Recreational Camps. They are soccer, baseball and all sport camps.

Once again the Board of Health sponsored the annual Flu Clinic, which was conducted by the Visiting Nurses Association of the Greater Milford-Northbridge area. The Visiting Nurses did an outstanding job.

The State Court system overturned the prohibition on body art in Massachusetts. This board worked hard to promulgate regulations to regulate this new industry. We have had many inquiries. To this date the board has not issued any licenses.

The new Bathing Beach Regulations passed by the Department of Public Health once again effected our daily operations requiring sampling requirements from bi-weekly to weekly. Although the regulation was mandated by the state, no funds were made available to the various Boards of Health to assist with the increased testing.

The West Nile Virus came into play. This office became the center for all collection and transfer of birds to the state lab in Jamaica Plain. We sent several birds into the lab for testing after 2 positives it was determined that the West Nile Virus was present in Hopedale. The birds affected by the mosquito carrying the virus are the crow and the Blue Jay. Remember you cannot contract the West Nile Virus from dead birds. Please notify this office if you find a dead Blue Jay or Crow.

In addition the new state food code required more lengthy inspections and the certification of personnel to be food protection managers. Those establishments not having trained managers will not be able to obtain a permit to operate a food establishment. This includes schools, nursing homes and any establishment that prepares food, including mobile food trucks.

The board has received many grants in the past for recycling education From the Municipal Recycling Program for a total 14,500. The town has collected 275 Tons of MRIP designated recyclable materials in this phase.

This board has also received a grant from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative in the sun of $52,000 to off set town of Hopedale's cost to Wheelabrator Millbury Waste to Energy Facility. For changes in the law regarding the clean air act amendment.

Elizabeth W. Sales has attended courses and has received advanced certification from the Massachusetts Association of Boards of Health. Peter B. Mitchell and Robert M. Moro also received certification. Health Agent Leonard A. Izzo has been attending a verity of seminars on the continuing changes in Public Health.

The health agent has written two signification regulations. Protect our water supply. The first has been designed to meet the requirements of the Massachusetts Department of

Environmental Protection governing TL Zone II on Interim Wellhead Protection area for the entire Town of Hopedale public ground water supplies current and future.

The second is a floor drain regulation as a preventive measure to preserve and protect the Town of Hopedale's drinking water resources from discharges of pollutants to the ground via floor drains.

As you can see the Board of Health has to deal with a variety of complex issues. This office does it's ultimate to answer questions in a timely fashion, return calls quickly and respond to resident complaints in an appropriate time frame.

Everyone believes that his/her situation is of the ultimate importance but unfortunately we are forced to prioritize on a daily basis. This office has only one employee on a daily basis. I make every effort to do my best to answer all questions and resolve the problem and enforce the regulations we are empowered to administer.

Respectfully submitted:
Leonard I. Izzo
Health Agent

Ronda Ohannesian
Town-Clerk

Office Of
TOWN-CLERK
P.O Box 7
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747
Tel.(508) 634-2203 x15
Fax (508) 634-2200

TO THE RESIDENTS OF HOPEDALE:

This is the yearly report from the Town Clerk & Board of Registrars:

Town Clerk:

The fiscal year 2003 was a quiet year regarding elections. Our annual election and Town Meetings were held without event. The Warrants for all meetings and elections are contained in this report.

Calendar year vital statistics are as follows:

Birth	**065**
Death	**057**
Marriage	**010**

This office continues to participate in the Sr. Citizen Tax Credit Program, which is a salvation to the running of the Town Clerk's Office. I personally thank the following ladies;

Cynthia Zacchilli Florence Ames Claire Turner

Every year these ladies complete their necessary hours and still volunteer to help this office whenever needed.

I attended the Annual Town Clerk's Conference in Falmouth in June. It continues to be a great source of training and information.

I look forward to continuing to serve the voters and residents of Hopedale.

Town Clerk Hours

Monday – Thursday
9 – 2
Monday evening
6 – 8
Friday – Closed

Board of Registrars

The Board of Registrars are:

Dottie Milanoski, Chair
Joe Drugan
Zeke Hammond

Zeke Hammond met with the 18-year old students at the high school and registered those eligible to vote.

Board members arrive early to Town Meetings to "check-in" all voters.

Our annual election brought 630 voters to the polls, double the number from the previous town election. Our election workers like to keep busy!

Respectfully submitted as your Town Clerk and on behalf of the Board of Registrars.

Ronda I Ohannesian

Ronda I. Ohannesian
Town Clerk

TOWN OF HOPEDALE

78 Hopedale Street - P.O. Box 7
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747

Tel: 508-634-2203 Fax: 508-634-2200
E-mail: dkeyes@hopedale.attbbs.com

Board of Selectmen
Michael E. Collins, Chm.
Michael A. Milanoski
Alan J. Ryan

Town Coordinator
Daniel M. Keyes

It was a busy year for the Board of Selectmen as we and all Hopedale residents have been through many changes this year.

Long-time Town Coordinator Allan Klepper resigned after serving 4 ½ years to take a position as Town Manager in Uxbridge. Daniel Keyes was hired in December as Town Coordinator and has begun streamlining operations at the Town Hall. Dan has provided improvement initiatives in the areas of fiscal policies, procurement procedures, consolidation considerations, personnel administration and public relations.

The paving of Hopedale Street and Route 16 certainly helped traffic move smoothly along two of our town's main roads. The long-awaited Fire Station renovation project is in motion, with much of the renovation to the existing interior completed. Work on the new two-bay addition has begun as well. As with many projects, there have been unanticipated problems – most notably contaminated soil -- that have delayed the progress and increased the cost of this project. At this time, we believe the major problems are behind us.

The Police Station renovation, which included replacing the exterior siding, renovating the walkways, and adding a Sally Port to the rear of the station, was completed in July. Police staffing continues to be a challenge and the Police Chief and Selectmen are dealing with that issue.

In our historic Town Hall, gutters and dormer repairs were made in the spring, along with re-pointing the stone mortar, and has successfully stopped the water leaks that have plagued the building for years. As a result of the previous water infiltration, however, mold and mildew have created a health hazard in many offices, particularly in the Town Clerk's office. The selectmen have asked Dan Keyes to contract a plasterer to remedy this condition. The current work notwithstanding, the town intends to renovate and restore this historic structure to make it handicap accessible, add in an elevator, and make other improvements and will be applying for various grants to fund the work.

New home growth continues in several areas of town, most notably in the Harmony development off Green and Plain Streets. Unfortunately, this new growth has not helped the town in meeting the 10% affordable housing goals set by the state (and in fact, the new development has put us further behind in meeting the 10% goal). To help better understand the needs of the town in several areas, a Community Development Plan committee has been established, led by Selectman Ryan. The group, working with planners from the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) after receiving a $30,000 grant from the state, is developing a development plan for Hopedale that addresses housing needs and goals, economic development issues, and environmental impacts. The full report, when generated, will become a solid first step to developing a new Town Master Plan.

The Selectmen would like to thank all board members and committee members who have spent countless hours of their time participating and working diligently to keep Hopedale operating effectively. Their contribution, dedication as well as the time spent away from their families, should be recognized by all of us who live in Hopedale. We would also like to recognize and thank all town municipal employees for their contributions to keeping our town beautiful, safe and running smoothly.

Respectfully,

Michael E. Milanoski Michael E. Collins, Chm. Alan J. Ryan
Board of Selectmen

TOWN OF HOPEDALE

P.O. BOX 7 • 78 HOPEDALE STREET
HOPEDALE, MA 01747
TEL: (508) 634-2206 • FAX (508) 634-2200

Office of:
Building Commissioner
Zoning Enforcement Officer

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

FISCAL YEAR 2003

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Hopedale, I hereby submit the report of the Building / Zoning Department for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2002 and ending June 30, 2003.

The Building /Zoning Department consists of: Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer, Michael Tusino (dept. head); Electrical Inspector, Albert Shimkus; Plumbing and Gas Inspector, John Balanca.

Being a part-time department poses a constant challenge to provide high-quality service to the public. This up and coming year will supply us with the same challenge considering the amount of residential and commercial construction that is already in progress.

The estimated cost of construction throughout town was $9,853,270

The following is a breakdown of departmental activity:

Single Family Dwellings	36	Residential Additions	21
Residential Renovations	32	Tenant Fit Up	1
Decks	27	Sheds	25
In Ground Pools	10	Above Ground Pools	5
Roofing	14	Wood Stoves	6
Garages	0	Signs	0
Certificate of Inspection	14	Zoning Permits	0
Commercial Buildings	5	Commercial Addit./Ren.	10

Building Inspections:	424	Building Permits:	206	Permit Fees:	$70,435.00
Electrical Inspections:	315	Electrical Permits:	186	Permit Fees:	$13,777.00
Plumbing Inspections:	234	Plumbing Permits :	117	Permit Fees:	$9,107.00
Gas Inspections:	82	Gas Permits:	46	Permit Fees:	$2,263.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael A. Tusino

Michael A. Tusino
Building Commissioner/
Zoning Enforcement Officer

HOPEDALE COUNCIL ON AGING

43 HOPE STREET
HOPEDALE, MA 01747
(508) 634-2208

Annual Report
July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003

The mission of the Council on Aging is to identify the needs of our older citizens. Hopedale's elder population comprises eighteen (18) percent of the town's total population. The Council works to meet the needs of this diverse group by providing opportunities for education, recreation and access to resources. The Council acts as a unified body, advocating for those issues that are important to older people.

Our core service programs are, local and out-of-town medical transportation, the delivery of meals through "The Meals on Wheels Program", enrollment in the federal Fuel Assistance program and the state's Prescription Advantage Pharmacy Plan. The Council on Aging is the gateway to the elder services network. We provide counseling and referral for an array of elder issues, services and programs. Healthcare insurance, Medicare, prescription drug insurance coverage, housing and elder caregiver support are predominant topics.

The Council on Aging is entering its third year of collaboration with the Milford COA in providing local transportation services to seniors. Additionally, we participate in The Blackstone Valley Consortium which has secured a grant to provide transportation to Boston and Worcester. Transportation services remain among the most critical of seniors' needs. We continue to address the issues of greater scheduling availability and overall cost. We are averaging sixteen (12) local trips per month. While this number may be seen as modest, the seniors who use the program have no other means of transit. Transit activity is simply difficult to predict. But, we believe the number of seniors who will need this service will grow as the baby boomers age. We also see a need to expand transportation services to enable us to bring individuals to the Sr. Center for socialization and congregate meals.

We regularly, provide seniors with monthly opportunities for social, cultural, medical and legal programs. The Council on Aging has developed strong relationships and joint programming with the Hopedale Schools, Fire and Police Departments, the Girl Scouts and Draper Place, a local Assisted Living Facility.

Hopedale and the COA completed the tenth year of the Senior Tax Credit Program. This highly successful program enables seniors age 60 and over, who own property in Hopedale, to obtain a tax credit in exchange for work in various town departments. This past year, the town raised the credit from $500.00 to $750.00 for 111 hours of work. The town has benefited greatly from our senior employees. Many who participate in the program go on to volunteer their services to the town long after the completion of their required hours.

During the past year, the Council on Aging Board met several times with selectmen to outline our need for more appropriate and functional space. This past year was a turning point for the COA. Town selectmen have acknowledged and support our efforts for a free-standing Senior Center. The COA was allocated $5,000.00 in FY'04 for costs related to a senior center feasibility study. The COA board and town selectmen are actively involved in preliminary inquiries of available sites in town. Our greatest challenge is the scarcity of commercial space or land for purchase in Hopedale. However, we remain optimistic.

I want to thank all the Council on Aging Board members for their support throughout the year. And a special thank you to all our wonderful volunteers. We eagerly welcome anyone who has a desire to volunteer his or her services.

The current Council on Aging Board Members are:

Chairwoman	Claudette Hughes
Vice Chairwoman	Pat Johnson
Secretary	Barbara Delphos
Members	
	Liz Bartolet
	Ed Holland
	Virginia Potty
	Julia Manning

Respectfully Submitted,

Carole Mullen

Carole Mullen
Director

Hopedale Cultural Council

Annual Report for 2002-2003

The Massachusetts Cultural Council allocated $2,000 for local aid to the arts, humanities and interpretative science. The local council received nineteen grant applications and awarded the following:

LCC Applicant:	Project Title	Amount
Bancroft Memorial Library:	Hampstead Players: Alice in Wonderland	$150
Blackstone Valley Heritage Homecoming	River Bend Farm Concerts	$200
Claffin Hill Music	Claffin Hill Concert Series	$400
Greater Milford Ballet	GMBA "The Nutcracker"	$200
Hopedale Cultural Council	Day In Park	$500
Hopedale Jr/Sr High School	The Odessey	$200
Hopedale Memorial School	"Amadeus in Action"	$350
Total Approved Grant Amount for Hopedale Cultural Council		$2,000
Total		$2,000

The Town allocated $3,800, which enabled the Cultural Council to organize the Wednesday night summer band concerts. There were eight performances in the series; refreshments concessions were offered by local organizations.
The Annual Day in the Park festival was held on Saturday September 21st 2002 at the Town Park. Live music and entertainment, adult fine art show, craft booths, a one-mile road race for children, games and food concessions provided fun for all ages.
A scholarship of $250 was awarded to a graduating Hopedale High School student class of 2002.
The council wishes to extend an invitation to members of the community who are interested in promoting our activities to join the council.

Respectfully Submitted
Dorothy Suszanska, LCC Chairperson
October 20, 2003.

Ann LaBrode Vice Chair
Sally Decelles Secretary
Ann-Marie Lockwood Treasurer
Laura Manning
Wilma Manning
Virginia Larkin
Joanne Andreotti
Patty Samalis
Kate Nolan
Ellen Murphy

Hopedale Fire Department

Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2003

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Hopedale Fire Department hereby submits its Annual Report for the period of July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003. This report also includes fire and emergency medical service (EMS) responses as well as the activities of the fire prevention office that occurred during the calendar year of January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2002.

Emergency Responses

Emergency responses dropped by 17% during the calendar year mostly in part to the Town of Mendon placing in service an emergency ambulance. Mendon now reciprocates EMS service when the Town of Hopedale has multiple medicals. Fire calls decreased slightly with total dollar loss placed at $171,100. A serious structure fire occurred at 56 Neck Hill Road at 4:00 A.M. resulting in a total loss of the modern two-story home. An alert resident responding to a smoke detector sounding saved the family of three from serious injury or death. The basement was well involved upon fire department arrival and municipal water being unavailable a water tanker shuttle system utilizing Mendon, Upton, and Milford was utilized to battle the flames. The cause was determined to be a faulty battery charger associated with a hand tool.

Mutual aid was given to surrounding towns twenty-seven times for fire calls and eighty-seven times for medicals. We received mutual aid eight times for fires and nine times for medical calls.

Our continued elevated level of preparedness for terrorism has resulted in attention being given to securing our apparatus and equipment and increasing our supplies to enable our department to function in the event of prolonged emergencies. An early unprecedented winter season resulted in multiple severe weather related incidents that continued well into the Spring of 2003. As a result of the winter storm of February 17 and 18, 2003 federal emergency relief totaling over $15,500 was obtained through a reimbursement request by the Local Emergency Manager.

Personnel

Richard J. Gleason, Jr. and William T. Collins were appointed to the Permanent staff early in 2002. Both new members attended the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy at Stow, MA with Gleason serving as President of his class. Both men are excelling in their capacities, Gleason functioning as the departments Maintenance Officer and Collins as the S.A.F.E. Officer. Collins has re-energized the fire prevention program and has instituted an aggressive schedule for both school aged children and the elderly. Permanent Firefighter David McMorrow is now certified as a Weapons of Mass Destruction Explosive Device training officer and attended bomb school at a New Mexico facility. McMorrow and Detective Richard Mank of the Hopedale Police Department have been valuable assets to our ability to properly investigate fire cause and origin. Call firefighters Daniel Lopez, Patrick Evans, and Vernon Gross have been promoted to the rank of Call Lieutenant as a result of a competitive a appointment process.

Call firefighters Todd Erickson, Dawn MacLean, and Edward Laquidara resigned during the past, each due to personal commitments outside the fire service.

Emergency Responses

EMS responses: 676 (22% decrease under calendar year 2001)
Fire responses: 316 (16% decrease under calendar year 2001)
Total Responses 2002: 992 (17% decrease under 2001)

Fire Prevention Office

Permits issued: 348 (355 in 2001, 342 in 2000, 297 in FY99)
Associated activities: 752 (347 in 2001, 310 in 2000, 303 in FY99)
>includes investigation of complaints, violations issued, fire drills conducted, fire alarm tests, building inspections, building plan reviews, fire safety classes, etc.

Fees Collected and turned over to the Town Treasurer FY2003

Fire Prevention Office: $ 5,573.33 ($ 4,903.00 in FY2002)
Hazardous Materials Incident Reimbursements: $ 0 (none billed)
Fire Incident Reimbursement: $ 0 (none billed)
Fire Alarm Service Fee Collected: $ 3,750.00 ($ 5,050 in FY2002)
Renovation Bid Applications: $ 4,900.00
Wellness Reimbursement: $ 0 (eliminated by Comm. of Mass.)
Ambulance transportation receipts: $ 136,466.48 ($ 137,405.46 in FY2002)

Total Fees Turned Over to the Town: $ 150,019.48 ($ 149,058.46 in FY2002)

Ambulance Service ALS Expense and Billing Fee: $8,691.41
Ambulance Service Expense FY2002: $ 118,884.00 (includes 3rd lease payment for new ambulance)

Grants Received:

Firefighter Safety & Equipment Grant/Comm. of Mass.: $21,000 for firefighting equipment

Rural Fire Protection/DEM: $1,777 for forest fire equipment

Student Awareness of Fire Education/Comm. of Mass.: $1,500 for fire prevention supplies and presentations

Federal All Hazards: $1,500 for emergency management training and equipment

Unibank: $1,000 for Basic Trauma Life Support program and certification

Total Grant Awards fiscal year 2002-2003: $26,777

Fire Station Renovation and Addition Project Underway

The fiscal year began with the completion of Phase I renovation including the installation of the new apparatus floor and drain system as well as a new roof. With the December 13, 2001 Special Town Meeting approval of the $1,934,000 renovation and two-bay addition of the Hopedale fire station efforts were focused on creating construction documents in preparation of the bid process. The architectural firm of ASEC Corporation was chosen and signed to contract in March 2002. Over the next ten months details to modernize the existing facility and to provide better working conditions for the employees were put to paper. In preparation of the construction work our department coordinated the removal of asbestos, hazardous pigeon guano, and the underground fuel oil tank. Our staff assisted in the removal of accumulated household waste and relocation of operations to the Hopedale police station. It was from this location that our general business and sleeping accommodations were assigned. The Hopedale Highway Department provided two apparatus bays for storage of two of our lead fire engines. A portable 50' shelter was purchased and placed behind the Town Hall. Temporary heating and electricity provided a reliable storage unit that housed the ambulance and rescue truck. Rosenfeld Concrete donated storage space for our out of service Engine 4, retired Engine 2, and Tanker 1. The Mendon Highway Department provided heated storage for our Ladder 1.

During the underground tank removal at the fire station contaminated soil consisting of home heating oil was encountered and resulted in mandatory remediation at a cost of $20,585. Additional contaminated soil consisting of gasoline and waste oil was discovered during excavation of the two-bay addition. Remediation cost $100,411 and was required to allow the construction of the addition to continue. Five weeks of build time was also lost and will result in the delay of completed construction. An investigation of the source of this contamination is ongoing and is directly related to the former gasoline service station once located at 50 Dutcher Street.

The construction bid was awarded to WestStar Associates, Inc. of North Attleboro for $1,624,900. Construction began on May 12, 2003 with a four hundred day build time incorporated into the project. It is intended that the fire department will house their apparatus in the fire station throughout the project and that general business and sleeping accommodations will be housed in a temporary trailer on the job site. We are all looking forward to the completion of our new facility and thank the townspeople for their generous support.

In October 2002 we accepted and placed in service our new Engine 2, a 2002 E-One custom Class A fire engine that replaces the 1968 open cab Maxim fire engine. This apparatus seats six firefighters, is equipped with Class A and B foam cells, a 1,500 gpm pump, and 1,000 gallon water tank. The engine has already given valuable service to several serious structure fires in both Hopedale and Milford and is unique in that the top-mount pump can be set to run automatically. A 14' heavy duty utility trailer was obtained with funds awarded to the town from the Commonwealth. This trailer will be used to haul and store hazardous material response equipment, multiple casualty medical supplies, and specialized rescue tools and equipment.

EMS Service

Our Emergency Medical Services continues to provide twenty-four hour response to the residents of Hopedale. We are exploring the possibility of providing Advanced Life Support Services to our community as well as providing the services of a non-emergency transportation operation to supplement our community service. Reduction in Medicare reimbursements has directly impacted the total percentage of fees that we are able to collect. Our service received excellent inspection results during their recent re-licensure by the Office of Emergency Medical Services.

Acknowledgements

On behalf of all the members of the Hopedale Fire Department we would like to take this opportunity to thank the various Boards, Commissions, and other town departments that we have worked with over the past year. The positive relationship between all departments is a true asset to the community. Most importantly, we wish to recognize and thank the citizens of Hopedale for their ongoing support and the financial backing of our Department. Because you continue to believe in us we are able to bring top-level emergency service to you and your loved ones.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott D. Garland
Fire Chief

Mark P. Bucchino
EMS Coordinator

Hopedale Fire Department Roster 2002-2003

Scott D. Garland, Fire Chief

(Vacant), Deputy Chief

Mark P. Bucchino, EMS Director

Reverend Christopher Dodge, Chaplain

Permanent Firefighter/EMT's

Mark A. Carron
Paul D. Barry
Thomas M. Daige
David J. McMorrow
Richard J. Gleason, Jr. (app't 02/02)
William T. Collins (app't 03/02)

Call Firefighters

James S. MacLean, Captain

Engine Company #4

Daniel H. Lopez, Lieutenant/EMT
Robert M. Malnati, Sr., Private
Todd R. Erickson, Private**

Mark Marcotte, Private
Leslie N. Fosburgh, Private/EMT
Mario Sousa, Private (LA)

Engine Company #3

Patrick W. Evans, Lieutenant/EMT
Harold V. Murphy, Private/EMT
Donald K. Mailing, Private/EMT
Ryan T. Jenkins, Private
Dawn MacLean, Substitute
Geoffrey Hooper, Private (LA)
Thomas M. Parente, Private

Ladder Company #1

Vernon D. Gross, Lieutenant/EMT
Christopher P. Biuso, Private/EMT
James C. Huth, Private/EMT**
Robert M. Malnati, Jr.
Andrew Buksar III, Substitute/EMT
Michael Goncalves, Substitute

Richard J. Gleason, Lieutenant/EMT#
Paul D. Grindle, Private
Michael Ciaramicoli, Private
Edward Laquidara, Private**
Susan Fairfield, Substitute/EMT**
David W. O'Donnell, Private

(LA) currently on a Leave of Absence
**resigned during the fiscal year
#appointed Permanent 03/2002

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

HOPEDALE HOUSING AUTHORITY
P.O. BOX 182
HOPEDALE, MA 01747
(508) 473-8120 • FAX (508) 473-4703

REPORT FOR THE HOPEDALE HOUSING AUTHORITY
FOR THE YEAR 2003

The annual meeting of the Authority was held on June 12, 2003, the following were elected or appointed to office:

Karen Villani	Chairman	2005
Louis Trevani	Vice Chairman	2006
Edward Malloy	Treasurer	2004
Edith Francis	Asst. Treasurer	2005
Robert Hammond	Asst. Secretary	2008
Katherine E. Consigli	Exectuive Director and Secretary	
David T. Pagnini	Legal Counsel	

The Housing for Elderly, Project 667-1 and 667-2, known as Griffin-Dennett Apartments, consist of eighty apartments and is managed according to the regulations set forth by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

The Authority meets on the second Thursday of each month and the annual meeting is held on the second, Thursday in May. The Authority held twelve regular meetings.

The Authority, is in the final stages of upgrading the fire alarm system, the property is continual maintained and upgraded, throughout the year to insure a safe and healthy environment for all of its tenants.

The Tenant Association is very active and they meet on a monthly basis, they have monthly dinners, and parties.

There is a current waiting list and local residents are still given preference according to state regulations.

Respectfully Submitted
Katherine E. Consigli
Executive Director

Bancroft Memorial Library
Annual Town Report
FY03

The members of the Library Board of Trustees for FY03 were Nancy Verdolino, Chair, Edward Spillers, Secretary, and Frederick Oldfield III. At the end of the year, Spillers stepped down at the end of his term. Katherine Wright was voted Trustee during Town elections.

A. Pandora Pillsbury and Sara Sartori joined the library staff. Wendy Sullivan was promoted to the position of Senior Library Assistant/Technical Services.

The Library was busier this year than last with a 28% increase in circulation. The music and video collections were targeted for development. A music survey was prepared and the cd collection greatly augmented. As a result of the survey, jazz, show tunes, current rock and "oldies" as well as other musical genres were added to the collection. DVDs were a new format for the library, allowing the library to purchase the most current titles. Road construction and re-paving of Hopedale Street, while frustrating for many, did not seem to have too much of a negative impact on library use.

The Library received its accreditation from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners for FY03. As a result, the Library was the recipient of a State Incentive Grant of $6,420.

The Library Board of Trustees recognized the importance of saving the Library's leaded glass windows, many of which were failing. Saving the windows became a top priority. Library Director Beth Hoffer prepared a Massachusetts Historic Preservation Grant and submitted it to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. In April, State Representative Marie Parente notified Hoffer that the $10,000 matching grant had been awarded. The Town and the Hopedale Foundation are also contributing funds to restore the windows. Among those who wrote letters of support to the Executive Director of the MHC were Representative Parente, State Senator Richard Moore, Michael Creasey, Executive Director of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, Merrily Sparling of the Hopedale Historical Commission, Jeanne Kinney from the Friends of Adin Ballou, and The Friends of the Hopedale Library.

The Friends of the Hopedale Library continue to offer financial support to the Library. The Friends funded the children's Story Hours, Summer Reading Program, and various entertainment and craft programs. They also purchased folding tables for the program room and museum passes that circulate to Hopedale residents. This year, Wal-Mart of Bellingham matched the earnings of the Friends' annual Book and Bake Sale. The money raised through the sale and matching donation will be used to purchase computer equipment for the Marjorie Hattersley Children's Room. Anyone who appreciates the library is encouraged to become a member of the Friends.

The Hopedale Foundation continued to support the library with an annual donation. The Foundation also donated the very popular Aquarium and Museum of Science passes.

Exharos Papageorgiou, the proprietor of Napoleon Pizza (50 Hopedale Street), offered the Library a unique fundraising opportunity. From April through June, a cash donation was made to the library when customers used a "library coupon". The funds raised will go toward the purchase of a new circulation desk for the Marjorie Hattersley Children's Room.

Primarily Potters, a group of local artisans, held a pottery show and sale that was very well attended. A raffle featuring their wares was held and the proceeds were donated to the library.

The library building, being over one hundred years old, is in need of upkeep and restoration. Recognizing this, the Library Board of Trustees formed the Library Preservation and Improvement Committee. The Committee's mission is to make recommendations to the Library Board of Trustees concerning the preservation and improvement of the library building and its contents. The Committee is charged with prioritizing identified needs and advising the Library Board of Trustees of those needs. The Committee also identifies means of fund-raising and assists in fund-raising efforts. Anyone interested in serving on the Committee may pick up a Talent Bank Form at the Library or Town Hall.

1899 Hopedale Park Commission 2003

"Preserving the Legacy" Rick Espanet, Chairman / Jim Binney / Meg McElroy "Embracing the Future"
P.O. Box 7
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747
508-634-2203 x 602

Meetings: 1st Wednesday of each month,, 6:00 PM, Town Hall - Draper Room.

ANNUAL REPORT: FY 2003

Despite fiscally challenging times facing our Town and the Commonwealth. the Park Commission continues its charter of maximizing available resources to preserve and improve recreational facilities and open-space land under our care. These include: Town Park, Hopedale Pond/Parklands, Mellen Field, and Adin Ballou Park. In addition, we serve as appointed Town stewards to oversee and coordinate all activities at the Draper Field facility.

Long-time Commissioner Mark Sesona stepped down from the Board in November 2002 due to family considerations. Residents elected Meg McElroy in May 2003 to fill his position. Mark's dedication, integrity and presence on this Board will be missed, and we extend our thanks and best wishes to him and his family.

Ad Hoc Committees

HARFC (Hopedale Athletic and Recreational Fields Committee)

Originally created in 1999 as an offshoot of the School Committee's Strategic Planning initiative headed by Supt. Andrea Hallion and Committee chair Liz Lerner, HARFC was a focus group chartered to develop requirements for new school athletic facilities. In late 2000 it transitioned into an ad-hoc committee under the Park Commission as its focus broadened to include non-school-related recreational needs. Chaired by Commissioner Jim Binney, this group has patiently and methodically investigated and considered all undeveloped open space in Town for recreational use expansion. With land availability dwindling or being too costly to consider, in early 2001 the committee's focus turned towards exploring possibilities of expanding present deeded usage at the popular Draper Field site – which the Town has been utilizing since the 1940's for recreational purposes. To date, through the cooperative efforts of property mortgage holder Phillip Shwachman, President of First American Realty of Worcester, MA. and the Board of Selectmen; HARFC recommendations brought forward by the Park Commission, have resulted in the completion of a property appraisal. At this writing the Town was just awarded a $100,000 grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency to conduct the first thorough and comprehensive site assessment of the back section of this property under the coveted Targeted Brownfields Assessment Program. These is a major step towards not only cleaning/capping the old Draper landfill site, but procuring and revitalizing otherwise useless land to accommodate the recreational facilities needs of the Town safely for generations to come.

Town Park

(summer rec. program, baseball, basketball, tennis, playground, band concerts & cultural events)

Activities hosted at the Park this year included: Blue Raider Baseball, Field Day activities for the Hopedale Public Schools; Babe Ruth and Sr. Ruth Baseball; Hopedale Men's Summer Basketball; the 2002 /2003 Day in the Park festivities and traditional summer band concert series – coordinated and run by the dedicated, hard working volunteers of Hopedale Cultural Council; an old fashioned July 4th Baseball game/picnic; and the always fun & popular Bright Beginnings Center Vehicle Fun Fair. In addition, our playground area continues to be one of the most frequented in the local area.

Our modest, but successful summer recreation program continued this season under the excellent supervision of returning staff members Liz Mitchell, Amie Colcord and Theresa Masnik. Arts & crafts and games were offered, and sporting equipment was available for free use. Barry Gorman coordinated & ran a well-received tennis instruction program and tournament. Part time maintenance staffer Mike Basiner kept the Park grounds well groomed and manicured.

Turning back the clock...Paul Johnson League baseball returned to the Park diamond this summer as the legendary Hopedale J's Sr. Ruth baseball program, founded in the mid70's by the late Ben Phillips Jr., was resurrected under the guidance of Board member Jim Binney and former Park Commissioner Bob Colcord. This program provides

youngsters 16-18 yrs. of age a chance to play summer baseball at a very competitive level. Ben would be very proud indeed to see his work live on, and the Park Commission is honored to help play a role in preserving this tradition.

After receiving notification that private tennis lessons being held on our public courts in 2002, the Park Commission initiated a trial, fully fee-supported, tennis instruction program. This effort showed promise and success early on - followed by a "Tennis Day" in May 2003; however, without the benefit of a full or part time recreation director to administer and oversee the program, overhead grew and it became increasingly difficult for us to maintain usage accountability. The trial was discontinued in September 2003. While the Park Comm. may explore similar alternatives in the future, for now –as posted– there are to be **no** tennis lessons, private or otherwise given on our courts without prior approval from the Board. Anyone whose use of the courts is impacted by activity of this kind should promptly bring it to the attention of a Park Comm. member. For the reference of townsfolk, any sanctioned tennis activity will be posted on the Park Dept. website which is scheduled to be online in January 2004.

Vandalism and disregard for posted regulations continue to be problematic at the Park. Our restroom building has been closed for the past few years due to repeated, costly, structure and plumbing destruction. The porta-pots installed in its place are continually being tipped and damaged, and the dugouts have been an attraction for graffiti and vandalism. The bottom section of the enclosed playground slide was destroyed as were barriers designed to keep children off of it. Lastly, one of the biggest issues we face is the complete disregard many dog owners have for our policy of "No Dogs Allowed in the Park." In 2004, new signage will be added and we will be working in conjunction with the Hopedale Police Dept. and the Board of Health to enforce this policy by issuing fines to repeat violators. Anyone witnessing acts of vandalism or unleashed dogs within Park grounds should contact the Police Dept. The Board of Health should be contacted to report any Dog owners who fail to pick up after their pets – here or anywhere in Town.

Mellen Field

(softball, soccer, playground)

Following heavy use in fall 2002 by Hopedale High and Milford/Hopedale Youth Soccer (MHYSA), the soccer field was re-seeded and "rested" during the summer. Hopedale Girls Softball, MHYSA, and the High School cooperatively share usage of this facility, and the Fire Dept. holds their annual summer Fireman's Celebrity Softball game here as well. Field maintenance is done by staff and the Highway Dept. – who also improved the parking lot area by spreading crushed asphalt throughout. MHYSA's usage contract is up for review/renewal in spring 2004.

Hopedale Pond / Parklands

(fishing, boating, picnics, hiking, biking, skating swimming-at beach with lifeguard on duty only-, nature studies)

A second summer came & went with the town beach remaining closed. To clarify apparent confusion on this, the **sole** reason as to why this part of our summer program was discontinued is simple: despite being open to in-town and out-of-town residents alike, there just wasn't enough usage to justify the cost of staffing. To further dispel mis-information surrounding this point: 1) Town funding for staff dried up - ***false!*** The fin com has always enthusiastically supported responsible funding of this program. 2) Hopedale Pond is polluted - ***false!*** The Board of Health monitors water quality for a multitude of bacterial agents & pollutants on a regular basis, and in fact over the years the water quality of the pond has been consistently excellent for swimming purposes, and is something the town should take pride in. 3) Residues from the old Draper plant have contaminated the pond – ***false!*** The pond sits upstream from Drapers, and its outflow drops 10' to flow under the plant. 4) Canada Geese have fouled the water making it unsafe for swimming – ***false!*** While these federally protected creatures have become an incredible nuisance, (we'd support the creation of an ad-hoc committee to search for methods to rid us of these birds), their biggest negative impact is what they leave behind on the shoreline and elsewhere on land, not in the water. In actuality the issue of Dog waste not picked up by inconsiderate owners - poses much more of a health hazard and imposition to people looking to enjoy our open spaces.

Repairs/Improvements: Benches have been ordered and will be placed at various locations throughout the Parklands in Fall 2003. Unfavorable weather and late approval of the FY2004 budget forced the cancellation of this year's aquatic weed control project - we will combine funds to treat as much of the pond as possible in late Spring 2004. All Parkland gates were sanded & painted - "No parking in front of gate" stenciling will be added as well. We replaced wooden, double garage overhead doors at the Pond garage with a single steel/fiberglass one. Floodlights continue to be turned on for winter skating, and the Bath House will continue to be made available to local and civic organizations as shelter for skating events as conditions warrant. This past season the Historical Commission held a skating party out of the there that was well received.

Adin Ballou Park

Diligent work by former Park Commissioner Mark Sesona and Elaine Malloy of the Historical Commission helped secure a grant from the Blackstone Valley Historical Commission for granite benches, new walkways, and a granite marker w/plaque at the site. Combined with recent statue refurbishments completed the Park Commission, Ballou Park is a landmark that exemplifies how cooperative commitment can help "preserve the trust" of Hopedale's rich heritage.

Draper Field

(high school softball-field hockey-soccer, little league baseball, open space recreation)

Despite being a privately controlled parcel, per agreement set forth in 2002 by property mortgage holder Phillip Shwachman, and the Board of Selectmen, the Park Commission was given Town stewardship responsibilities for this facility. Translated: Parks is a liaison to the land holder for organizations who utilize this facility and vise-versa. We uphold defined guidelines set forth by Mr. Shwachman that approved users of this property must adhere to in order to maintain their privileges. We also mediate scheduling conflicts and review all requests for capital improvements with first-level approval authority. Currently, primary organizations who enjoy usage access to this facility are the Hopedale School system and the independent Hopedale Youth Baseball Association.

Miscellany

Parks received a $20,000 Town appropriation at the November 19, 2002 Town Meeting towards the joint purchase of a state-of-the-art John Deere mowing/bagging tractor which we share with the Highway Dept. This piece of machinery provides high-volume mowing capability and flexibility, and has already saved countless labor man-hours. At present, it's used to mow/groom the Town Park, Ballou Park, Mellen Field, and the bath house area. Per agreement with the Water Dept., we also assumed ownership of a 1989 Ford Pickup truck which will be utilized by Park staff for trash pickup, and general maintenance activities.

Acknowledgements

The purpose of the Park Commission is to serve as an elected policy-making Board. We are, however, truly unique within our Town government structure as we're the only elected Board who functions without dedicated administrative assistance or, more critically, a full/part time Town employee (Director) to oversee our daily operations – such as coordinating new recreational programs, handle scheduling, fee collections etc. Should our efforts in obtaining additional recreational fields for the Town be successful, our operating budget for staff and additional maintenance equipment is sure to grow exponentially. Until that time, we will continue to operate as both a policy-making and working Board, and we'd like to express **thanks** to the following individuals who've helped us accomplish this over the past year: Highway Foreman Bob DePonte & crew, Jack Farrar, Town Clerk Ronda Ohannesian, Town Accountant Sharon Emrick and the rest of the wonderful Town Hall Staff; Water Dept. Superintendent Tim Watson & crew; Health Agent Lenny Izzo; Gene Phillips, School Supt. Andrea Hallion & HHS Princpal Dennis Breen, HPD, HFD and the Board of Selectmen. Also: Mike Basiner, Mark Sesona, Bob Colcord, Howie Maurer, Joe Small, Bruce Hamilton, Dave DeWitt, Glenn Cochran, Steve Beaudoin, Chet Francis-Varney Bros., Don Howes-Howes Welding, The Hopedale Foundation; and the residents of Hopedale for your continued trust, patience and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard P. Espanet, Chairman
30, October 2003

Planning Board

Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747

Annual Report for FY2003

A summary of our year shows that this board held 2 public hearings and 4 special meetings in addition to our regularly scheduled monthly meetings. Catherine Pisacane was elected to serve as our representative to the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission, CMRPC, located in Worcester. In June, the board approved the development of the Plain Street Industrial Park. This site of approximately 48.75 acres will be developed in a similar fashion to the Airport Industrial Park with 24 lots for small businesses.

We continue to monitor the development of Harmony Estates, a large residential development located between Greene, Mill and Plain Streets. It is presently nearing its final stage with the anticipated completion of a waterline to be installed on Mill and Plain Street.

An inspection of town by-laws has necessitated the need to review the following items and take any action if needed to update their purpose:

- Fee Schedule
- Geographic Information System (GIS) Modification
- Lot Shape Factor
- Lot Width Definition
- Lot Width and Lot Shape Factor Schedule

Final action of these items will be addressed in FY04.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Craig Travers, Chairman

Michael Weaver

Harland Griffin

Catherine Pisacane

POLICE DEPARTMENT
70 HOPEDALE STREET, P.O. BOX 101
HOPEDALE, MASSACHUSETTS 01747-1241
TELEPHONE 508-634-2227
FAX 508-634-2228

CHIEF OF POLICE
EUGENE P. COSTANZA

FISCAL 2003 ANNUAL REPORT

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the residents of Hopedale, I hereby submit the Hopedale Police Department Annual Town Report.

Once again calls for service to the police department have increased compared to the stats of F.Y. 2002. Our present manpower has done it's best to handle the influx of calls.

The "911" system must be manned twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Civilian Public Safety Dispatchers are hired to perform this and numerous other tasks.

During the course of the year, we held several events such as, a Visit with Santa for the children, the Tenth Annual Hopedale Police and Fireman's Ball, a Children I.D. Program, The Police Association and Police Union sponsored a little league team, and two girl's softball teams.

Officer Victor Best, the departments D.A.R.E. Officer was unable to continue the program due to state budget cuts. The state informed us that the grant funds used to support the D.A.R.E. program have been eliminated. This being the case, we hope to raise enough funds next year, through donations to continue the program.

The police department continued its philosophy of Community Policing and maintained the Officer on Bicycle Patrol unit. As a result of the Community Policing Grant offered by the state, we are able to have a Harley Davidson Police Motorcycle available for patrol. The residents have seen the officers on their bikes at various public events such as, band concerts, road races, parades, and at times on routine patrol in the area of the park, park lands, center of town and neighborhoods. This type of policing has given us a better way to interact with the residents and children in town. Once again I received a lot of positive feed back from the residents regarding this program, especially in the area of the town park.

The police department applied for and received three grants during the year. We received two grants from the Executive Office of

Public Safety. The first was for $20,000.00 to assist us in purchasing needed equipment to fight the war on terrorism. The second was for $10,000.00 to continue our community-policing program. The third was for $1,500.00 from the State Police,(ByrneGrant) to assist us in performing drug investigations. We have been informed that the community policing grants may also be eliminated by the state. Therefore a lot of our extra activities supplied to the public will be eliminated unless the town increases our budget.

We continued receiving our $125,000.00 Federal Grant in order to hire a police officer to be assigned specifically to the schools. Officer Best was assigned the Officer in School position. He has worked hand and hand with school personnel on a daily basis. So far the program has proven to be a huge success.

We continue to loose trained, loyal, and dedicated officers to other towns. Seems soon after we train them they leave here to go to other departments that pay much than Hopedale. We have lost eight officers over the past two years due to the low pay scale. We must increase our police officers pay scale to stay competitive with other towns or we will continuously be short staffed due to officer leaving.

I want to thank the residents, Town Boards and Departments for their support and assistance. I look forward to working in unison with all parties during my tenure as Chief of Police. I especially want to extend my thanks to the members of the Hopedale Police Department. These men and women are a dedicated, sincere, and a loyal group of individuals whom have shown their support for me and always give 110%.

My intent was, and will always be, to maintain the demeanor of the Hopedale Police Department personnel in order to continue being a people's police department. As Chief of Police, I feel we have achieved this goal, along with maintaining our professional image, and always remembering we are here to protect, to serve, and to interact with the public.

Respectfully Submitted,

E.P. Costanza

Eugene P. Costanza Jr.
Chief of Police

HOPEDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

TRAFFIC ACTIVITY	2002	2003		INCREASE / DECREASE	
Total Number Of Accidents	77	89		13.48%	
Total Number Of Accidents No Injuries	57	71		19.72%	
Total Number Of Accidents With Injuries	20	18			-10.00%
Total Number Of Accidents Fatalities	0	0		0.00%	0.00%
Hazardous Motor Vehicle Arrests (Not O.U.I.)	300	341		12.02%	
Operating Under The Influence Arrests	64	44			-31.25%
Total Number Of Motor Vehicle Citations Issued	3,262	3524		7.43%	
Total Number Of Civil Citations Issued	444	611		27.33%	
Total Number Of Complaint Citations Issued	209	478		56.28%	
Total Number Of Warning Citations Issued	2289	2435		6.38%	
Total Number Of Parking Citations Issued	324	108			-66.67%
Total Number Of Abandoned Vehicles	2	1			-50.00%
Total Number Of Towed Vehicles	292	341		16.78%	
Total Number Of Stolen Vehicles	2	1			-50.00%

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY					
Total Number Of Investigations	4,224	8,267		48.91%	
Total Number Of Arrests Felony / Adult	65	72		9.72%	
Total Number Of Arrests Felony / Juvenile	8	16		50.00%	
Total Number Of Arrests Misdemeanor / Adult	231	238		2.94%	
Total Number Of Arrests Misdemeanor / Juvenile	14	21		33.33%	
Total Number Of Arrest Warrants Served	215	174			-19.07%
Total Number Of Property Checks Made	2,323	1,674			-38.77%
Total Number Of Field Interviews / Adult	446	321			-38.94%
Total Number Of Field Interviews / Juvenile	38	47		19.15%	
Total Number Of Recovered Vehicles	3	1			-200.00%
Total Number Of Recovered Bicycles	4	4		0.00%	0.00%
Total Number Of Stolen Bicycles	3	2			-50.00%
Total Number Of Summons / 209A Served	243	188			-29.26%
Total Number Of Drug Related Arrests	58	48			-20.83%
Total Number Of Individuals Held In Protective Custody	67	49			-36.73%

ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL					
Total Number Of Hours Spent On Dare	2,115	2,920		27.57%	
Total Number Of Hours Spent On Community Service	3,172	3,450		8.06%	
Total Number Of Patrol Hours	10,147	18,100		43.94%	
Total Number Of Selective Enforcement Hours	4,721	4,527			-4.29%
Total Number Of Outside Agency Assists	867	736			-17.80%
Total Number Of Training Hours	2,500	1,862			-34.26%
Total Number Of Public Talks	307	231			-32.90%
Total Number Of Court Appearances (Criminal)	242	354		31.64%	
Total Number Of Court Appearances (Civil)	294	310		5.16%	
Total Number Of Administrative Investigations	6,822	5,423			-25.80%
Total Number Of Calls For Service	36,110	36,651		1.48%	

Office Of
Board of Road Commissioners
P.O. Box 231
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747
Tel: (508) 634-2207

Annual Report for FY2003

The following account is our summary of activities and events for the past year. While there were no major projects for the past year we did repair the long-standing problem of drainage from the High School to Hopedale St. It has been corrected with several new drainage catch basins and manholes. Approval was given for a road extension on Robertson Drive for a small residential subdivision, and we reviewed the proposed plans for Plain St. Industrial Park, a private light industrial park in the south end of town. And with the combined effort of the Park Dept., a John Deere tractor was purchased to service town parks.

The Mill St. Bridge replacement plans, slated for 2005, are presently being reviewed and updated.

Various catch basins throughout town have been repaired, as well as the rebuilding of several manholes. We continue to do roadside cutting of brush with the sickle bar to maintain a safe and neat appearance. The leaf pickup season was cut short due to our early winter, which necessitated a more, detailed clean up in the spring. Winter was long and hard and put a strain on our sand and salt budget with 6 employees servicing approximately 30 miles of roads, sidewalks, school parking lots, etc. Adin St. Park, Adin Ballou Park, Draper Field, Town Park proper, Mellen St. Field and along the southern end of Hopedale Pond, continue to be cleaned of debris and maintain vegetative growth and appearance.

We have helped the Board of Health in opening the Recycling Center with manpower and equipment whenever needed.

The Fire Department continued to house several of their vehicles in our facilities during the winter months, while the Fire Station is undergoing renovation.

The annual Town Meeting approved the article to initiate the process of acquiring adjacent land to the highway barn from the railroad. And William Marquis was re-elected to the board at the annual town election, this is his second full term and serves as Clerk.

Our thanks to the Town Hall General Office staff for their continued help and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

John E Farrar Jr

John Farrar, Chairman

William Marquis

Donald Fafard

BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE
JUNIOR - SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING
25 ADIN STREET
HOPEDALE · MASS ·
01747

ANDREA M. HALLION
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

TEL. (508) 634-2220
FAX (508) 478-1471

HOPEDALE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Justine Tonelli, Chair	*Term Expires 2004*
Lou Arcudi, Vice Chair	*Term Expires 2005*
Elizabeth Lerner	*Term Expires 2006*
Richard P. Mank	*Term Expires 2006*
Richard W. Martin	*Term Expires 2004*

One Hundred Seventeenth Commencement of Hopedale High School
June 7, 2003

Adrianna Arlene Abbruzzese
Kyle Stephen Andress
Melissa Marie Bazzillion
Iris Lorraine Bentley
Jill Marie Biagetti
Ashley Marie Boerger
*Courtney Anne Breese**
Michael Brian Brown
*Shaylan Keirstead Campbell**
Michael Alan Caron
Paul Charles Castiglione
Ashley Allison Chase
Naomi Susan Costanza
Michael James Decelles
Adam Jasen DiFonzo
Kristin Alicia Formalarie
Christina Ann Gross
Jenna Lydia Guglielmi
Corey Ann Hartmann
Sheena Paulene Hilditch
*Jennifer Parisi Jarvis**
Andrew John Julian
Jonathan Albert Lavigne
*David Allen Lewis**
John Alexander MacDonald
*Shannon MacDonald**
Brian Alexander MacEwen
Daniel Christopher Madden
Robert Michael Malnati
Kerri Anne Marcott
*Kristi Nicole Matsumoto**
Erin Marie McNally
Cheryl Anne Moroney
Kevin Matthew Nee
*Rachel Beth Newman**
Ashleigh Bliss O'Connor
Nicole Jean Oliveri
Emily Ann Patton
*Gina Marie Richards**
Jillian Elizabeth Salvucci
Michael Colin Sampson
Ryan Spenser Short
Bradley Michael Trenchard
*Katherine Frances Valorie**
*Katharine Claire Verdolino**
Anna-Lisa Maria Vust
Joshua Robert Watkins
Elena Asunta Yung

- *National Honor Society*

The Hopedale School Committee hereby approves this and the attached Report of the Superintendent of Schools as the Annual Report of the School Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Justine Tonelli, Chair
Hopedale School Committee

HOPEDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING
25 ADIN STREET
HOPEDALE, MASSACHUSETTS 01747

ANDREA M. HALLION
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

TEL. (508) 634-2220
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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
2002-2003 SCHOOL YEAR

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES (NEASC)) ACCREDITATION IS COMPLETE

The mission of Hopedale Junior-Senior High School is to nurture life-long learning in a friendly atmosphere and safe environment. Through close working relationships within the educational community our school becomes a forum for positive and challenging learning opportunities that address students' individual needs and talents. This student-focused approach promotes intellectual growth, encourages academic excellence, fosters personal responsibility, and instills mutual respect for one another. From this approach our students develop into critical thinkers, contributing citizens, and life-long learners in an ever-changing world.

A fifteen-member committee from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) visited the Hopedale Junior-Senior High School in March to assess how well the school was accomplishing the above mission. The school was measured against seven standards which included the mission and expectations, curriculum, instruction, assessment of student learning, leadership and organization, school resources for learning and community resources for learning. During the three-day visit the visiting group concluded that all of the standards were being addressed admirably.

The NEASC evaluates member schools every ten years to decide if accreditation should be renewed. The three-year reaccredidation process began with a self-study that involved all of the staff. The self-study alone brought about tremendous growth in all aspects of the standards. After the visit was concluded a formal report was sent to the principal with findings. The report provided the school with a list of commendations and recommendations for each standard which will reinforce for the staff what they are doing well, and serve as a blueprint for further improvement. The school staff, lead by the principal, will respond to the recommendations over the next few years. Furthermore, the NEASC will conduct an interim visit followed by a report at the five-year mark

"The faculty, staff, and administration....are making a significant and largely successful effort to provide a varied and comprehensive program in a small school. Teaching and learning are surely enhanced by the personal relationships in school and by a tradition of caring about students by school and community," the chair of the visiting committee wrote in the final report.

SCHOOL CHOICE POLICY LIMITS NUMBERS OF STUDENTS ACCEPTED

The School Committee has adopted a revised School Choice Policy which will limit the number of out of district students accepted into Hopedale Schools. This newly revised policy is an attempt to ensure reasonable class sizes. At the beginning of May of each year the School Committee will determine the number of students that may be accepted at each grade level. If we have received more applicants than available spaces, a lottery will be held. For further information about this policy and other Hopedale Public School policies, please visit our website at www.hopedale.k12.ma.us

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND (NCLB)

In January 2002, President Bush signed into law the "No Child Left Behind Act." The central feature of the law requires the states to adopt a specific approach to testing and accountability, intended to lead to higher achievement for all children. The five major goals of NCLB are:

1. All students will reach high standards, at a minimum attaining proficiency or better in reading/language arts and mathematics by 2013-2014.
2. All limited English proficiency students will become proficient in English and reach high academic standards, at a minimum attaining proficiency or better in reading/language arts and mathematics.
3. By 2005-2006, all students will be taught by highly qualified teachers.
4. All students will be educated in learning environments that are safe.
5. All students will graduate from high school.

For further information about NCLB, see the Department of Education website at www.doe.mass.edu/nclb.

COMMUNICATION IS OUR HALLMARK

As Superintendent I continue to hold four forums per year for parents, teachers and community. Three of the Superintendent's Forums take place in the evening and one is a breakfast meeting; each includes lively dialogue and information sharing. At the breakfast forum the entire administrative team presents an overview of current programs.

Each of the three schools (Bright Beginnings, Memorial Elementary School and the Junior-Senior High School) continues to have a parent group that works with administration and staff to improve our schools. The Friends of Music and Athletic Booster Club encourage parents to get involved with their children's activities. Additionally, the principals and I publish our own informative newsletters and calendars.

The technology team has developed a Hopedale Public Schools website (www.hopedale.k12.ma.us). Please log on to see what is going on in individual teachers' classrooms, read about your School Committee and discover other interesting things about our schools and your students. We will continue our efforts to foster and develop greater communication.

Thank you for the privilege of serving the Town of Hopedale and its schools for the past fifteen years and thank you also for the support you have provided for our outstanding students.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea M. Hallion
Andrea M. Hallion
Superintendent of Schools

TOWN OF HOPEDALE

78 Hopedale Street - P.O. Box 7
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747

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Town Accountant
Sharon E. Emerick

REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

The Board of Selectmen and
Residents of Hopedale

The following report reflects the financial condition of the Town of Hopedale as of June 30, 2003 and for the year then ended. The financial statements include the combined balance sheet and combined statement of revenues and expenditures. The statements of general fund revenues and expenditures are presented budget to actual, for town meeting appropriations. I have also included a statement of revenues and expenditures for special revenue, capital projects and trust funds.

I would like to thank the various town departments for the cooperation and courtesy they have extended to me during the period covered by this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon E. Emerick

Sharon E. Emerick
Town Accountant

Town of Hopedale
Combined Balance Sheet
June 30, 2003

	General Fund (1)	Special Revenue (22-29)	Capital Projects (31-34)	Sewer Enterprise Fund (61)	Water Special Revenue Fund (20)	Trust & Agency Funds (81-89)	Long Term Debt Account Group (90)	Total
ASSETS								
Cash & Investments:								
Cash & Investments	1,642,557.32	1,664,088.64	1,407,874.21	242,054.92	336,897.08	1,796,109.14	-	7,089,581.31
Receivables:								
Personal Property	22,804.23							22,804.23
Real Estate	202,582.04							202,582.04
Tax Liens	192,192.43							192,192.43
Deferred Property	8,699.27							8,699.27
Tax Foreclosures	41,966.93							41,966.93
Motor Vehicle Excise	158,960.67							158,960.67
Total Tax and Excise	627,205.57	-	-	-	-	-	-	627,205.57
User Charges				12,286.49	13,058.16			25,344.65
Other Service				(166.21)	4,213.83			4,047.62
Special Assessments				1,399,938.00	1,800.01			1,401,738.01
Ambulance Receivable		43,690.11						43,690.11
Total User Charges and Assessments	-	43,690.11	-	1,412,058.28	19,072.00	-	-	1,474,820.39
Total Receivables	627,205.57	43,690.11	-	1,412,058.28	19,072.00	-	-	2,102,025.96
Due from Commonwealth		102,875.65			536,151.26			639,026.91
Amounts To Be Provided:								
Bonds Authorized							540,466.00	540,466.00
Bonds Authorized and Unissued							(540,466.00)	(540,466.00)
Amounts to be Provided for BANS			2,154,000.00					2,154,000.00
Amounts to be Provided for Bonds							19,416,934.00	19,416,934.00
	-	-	2,154,000.00	-	-	-	19,416,934.00	21,570,934.00
TOTAL ASSETS	2,269,762.89	1,810,654.40	3,561,874.21	1,654,113.20	892,120.34	1,796,109.14	19,416,934.00	31,401,568.18

Town of Hopedale
Combined Balance Sheet
June 30, 2003

	General Fund (1)	Other Special Revenue (22-29)	Capital Projects (31-34)	Sewer Enterprise Fund (61)	Water Special Revenue Fund (20)	Trust & Agency Funds (81-89)	Long Term Debt Account Group (90)	Total
LIABILITIES								
Warrants Payable	486,568.08	41,971.50	4,550.17	36,044.99	48,371.30	9,176.38		626,682.42
Withholdings	153,530.58							153,530.58
Provision for Abatements/Expemptions	263,066.61							263,066.61
Agency Accounts						22,410.81		22,410.81
Tailings	8,975.76							8,975.76
Deferred Revenue:								
Property Taxes	(37,680.34)							(37,680.34)
Tax Liens	192,192.43							192,192.43
Deferred Taxes	8,699.27							8,699.27
Tax Foreclosures	41,966.93							41,966.93
Motor Vehicle	158,960.67							158,960.67
Water & Sewer				1,412,058.28	19,072.00			1,431,130.28
Ambulance		43,690.11						43,690.11
Intergovernmental		102,875.65			536,151.26			639,026.91
	364,138.96	146,565.76	-	1,412,058.28	555,223.26	-	-	2,477,986.26
Bond Anticipation Notes			2,154,000.00					2,154,000.00
								-
Bond Payable:								
Sewer Plant							912,400.00	912,400.00
Water Expansion							859,534.00	859,534.00
High School Building							12,955,000.00	12,955,000.00
Memorial School Building							4,690,000.00	4,690,000.00
	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,416,934.00	19,416,934.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,276,279.99	188,537.26	2,158,550.17	1,448,103.27	603,594.56	31,587.19	19,416,934.00	25,123,586.44

Town of Hopedale
Combined Balance Sheet
June 30, 2003

	General Fund (1)	Other Special Revenue (22-29)	Capital Projects (31-34)	Sewer Enterprise Fund (61)	Water Special Revenue Fund (20)	Trust & Agency Funds (81-89)	Long Term Debt Account Group (90)	Total
FUND BALANCE								
Reserved Fund Balance:								
Reserved for Other Purposes	9,650.00			-				9,650.00
Reserved for Encumbrances	143,166.65			650.00	4.49			143,821.14
Reserved for Carryovers	358,137.87			98,772.07	46,320.00			503,229.94
Reserved for Petty Cash	220.00							220.00
	511,174.52	-	-	99,422.07	46,324.49	-	-	656,921.08
Designated Fund Balance		1,622,117.14	1,403,324.04			1,764,521.95		4,789,963.13
Unreserved Fund Balance	482,308.38	-	-	106,587.86	242,201.29	-	-	831,097.53
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	993,482.90	1,622,117.14	1,403,324.04	206,009.93	288,525.78	1,764,521.95	-	6,277,981.74
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	2,269,762.89	1,810,654.40	3,561,874.21	1,654,113.20	892,120.34	1,796,109.14	19,416,934.00	31,401,568.18

Town of Hopedale
Combined Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
June 30, 2003

	General Fund (1)	Other Special Revenue (22-29)	Capital Projects (31-34)	Sewer Enterprise Fund (61)	Water Special Revenue Fund (20)	Trust & Agency Funds (81-89)	Long Term Debt Account Group (90)	Total
REVENUE								
Taxes:								
Personal Property	155,449.63							155,449.63
Real Estate	6,467,953.49							6,467,953.49
Tax Liens Redeemed	46,288.15							46,288.15
Motor Vehicle Excise	899,962.20							899,962.20
Penalties & Interest	37,802.98							37,802.98
Total Taxes	7,607,456.45	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,607,456.45
User Charges:								
Water					395,410.44			395,410.44
Sewer				403,673.05				403,673.05
Assessments				94,388.44	65,977.05			160,365.49
Total User Charges	-	-	-	498,061.49	461,387.49	-	-	959,448.98
State Aid	6,954,019.73	111,615.53						7,065,635.26
Other Special Revenue		1,841,362.51						1,841,362.51
Other Local Receipts:								
Charges for Services	76,062.41	146,689.00	-	-	38,496.00	-	-	261,247.41
Licenses & Permits	120,254.26			100.00				120,354.26
Fines & Forfeits	18,799.70							18,799.70
Interest	59,810.33			7,384.41		27,834.31		95,029.05
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	67,255.13							67,255.13
	342,181.83	146,689.00	-	7,484.41	38,496.00	27,834.31	-	562,685.55
TOTAL REVENUE	14,903,658.01	2,099,667.04	-	505,545.90	499,883.49	27,834.31	-	18,036,588.75

Town of Hopedale
Combined Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
June 30, 2003

	General Fund (1)	Other Special Revenue (22-29)	Capital Projects (31-34)	Sewer Enterprise Fund (61)	Water Special Revenue Fund (20)	Trust & Agency Funds (81-89)	Long Term Debt Account Group (90)	Total
EXPENDITURES								
Expenditures:								
General Government	881,389.74	66,594.16						947,983.90
Police	763,448.41	105,394.59						868,843.00
Fire	409,074.44	40,640.27	398,818.54					848,533.25
Ambulance	108,006.73	135,235.00						243,241.73
Inspectors	29,121.65							29,121.65
Forestry	4,810.00							4,810.00
Other Public Safety	11,202.19	903.88						12,106.07
Education	7,581,958.27	1,370,876.45	51,733.24					9,004,567.96
Highway	467,148.59	82,601.75						549,750.34
Sewer				356,832.05				356,832.05
Water			845,901.69		423,302.85			1,269,204.54
Other Public Works	35,465.24	400.00						35,865.24
Board of Health	389,745.98	33,776.05						423,522.03
Council on Aging	47,909.09	5,824.12						53,733.21
Veterans	3,046.99							3,046.99
Library	186,076.26	939.71						187,015.97
Parks	50,484.14							50,484.14
Council on Arts	3,500.00	4,990.00						8,490.00
Other Culture and Recreation	3,266.36	12,377.70						15,644.06
Debt Service	2,291,458.98			93,526.24	4,154.26			2,389,139.48
State and County Charges	891,828.35							891,828.35
Employee Benefits	1,348,240.21	21,128.21						1,369,368.42
Total Expenditures	15,507,181.62	1,881,681.89	1,296,453.47	450,358.29	427,457.11	-	-	19,563,132.38
Excess (deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenditures	(603,523.61)	217,985.15	(1,296,453.47)	55,187.61	72,426.38	27,834.31	-	(1,526,543.63)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):								
Other Financing Sources	521,441.99		3,755,020.69			218,274.00		4,494,736.68
Other Financing Uses	(218,274.00)		(110,000.00)	(125,300.00)		(348,361.00)		(801,935.00)
	303,167.99	-	3,645,020.69	(125,300.00)	-	(130,087.00)	-	3,692,801.68
Excess of Revenues and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses	(300,355.62)	217,985.15	2,348,567.22	(70,112.39)	72,426.38	(102,252.69)	-	2,166,258.05

Town of Hopedale
Statement of General Fund Revenues
June 30, 2003

	Budget	Actual	Over/(Under)
Property Taxes - Net	6,644,597.00	6,623,403.12	(21,193.88)
Tax Title	0.00	46,288.15	46,288.15
Motor Vehicle	669,650.00	899,962.20	230,312.20
Penalties & Interest	50,000.00	37,802.98	(12,197.02)
Fees	20,000.00	38,705.60	18,705.60
Rentals	35,000.00	37,356.81	2,356.81
Library Fees	700.00	1,217.70	517.70
Other Dept. Revenue	40,000.00	67,255.13	27,255.13
Licenses & Permits	150,000.00	120,254.26	(29,745.74)
Fines & Forfeits	20,000.00	17,582.00	(2,418.00)
Investment Income	90,000.00	59,810.33	(30,189.67)
Cherry Sheet	6,978,736.00	6,954,019.73	(24,716.27)
	14,698,683.00	14,903,658.01	204,975.01
Transfer from Special Revenue	169,169.00	169,169.00	0.00
Transfer from Stabilization	348,361.00	348,361.00	0.00
	517,530.00	517,530.00	0.00
Voted from Free Cash	463,642.00	463,642.00	0.00
Encumbered from FY01	613,331.48	613,331.48	0.00
Other Miscellaneous	57,933.78	3,911.99	(54,021.79)
	1,134,907.26	1,080,885.47	-54,021.79
	16,351,120.26	16,502,073.48	150,953.22

Town of Hopedale
Statement of General Fund Expenditures
June 30, 2003

	Budget	Expended	Encumbered	Unexpended
Town Moderator	225.00	225.00		0.00
Selectmen	11,300.00	11,299.01		0.99
Manager	107,667.03	105,666.76	77.50	1,922.77
Finance Committee	2,625.00	1,267.67		1,357.33
Accountant	59,785.00	59,120.52		664.48
Assessors	124,124.50	121,799.57	183.00	2,141.93
Treasurer/Collector	126,441.98	126,290.41		151.57
Capital Improvement	585,172.72	299,768.93	285,403.79	0.00
Legal	35,900.00	35,880.60		19.40
Personnel Committee	250.00	0.00		250.00
Cable Advisory Committee	56,626.37	33,626.37	23,000.00	0.00
Tax Title	6,500.00	1,848.51		4,651.49
Town Clerk	33,067.00	33,066.66		0.34
Parking Clerk	800.00	450.66		349.34
Conservation	485.00	190.00		295.00
Planning Board	5,647.00	3,778.75		1,868.25
Zoning Board	2,490.00	2,473.72		16.28
Industrial Development	0.00	0.00		0.00
Computer System	24,950.00	15,217.58	9,601.00	131.42
Town Hall	32,940.00	29,419.02		3,520.98
Police Department	794,781.58	763,448.41	2,225.00	29,108.17
Fire Department	416,316.14	409,074.44	215.76	7,025.94
Town Detail	7,000.00	7,000.00		0.00
Ambulance	109,165.00	108,006.73	1,158.27	0.00
Inspectors	31,701.00	29,121.65	1,589.00	990.35
Civil Defense	1,161.00	1,022.19		138.81
Dog Officer	5,250.00	3,180.00		2,070.00
Tree Warden	12,052.00	4,810.00		7,242.00
School Department	7,724,883.18	7,581,958.27	142,924.91	0.00
Highway Department	347,107.21	330,824.36	14,700.00	1,582.85
Highway Snow & Ice	54,000.00	136,324.23		-82,324.23
Street Lighting	33,350.00	33,124.25		225.75
Cemetery	2,425.00	2,340.99		84.01
Board of Health	400,555.45	389,745.98		10,809.47
Council on Aging	48,030.38	47,909.09	121.29	0.00
Veterans	6,722.00	3,046.99		3,675.01
Commission on Disabilities	200.00	0.00		200.00
Library	206,679.43	186,076.26	18,575.00	2,028.17
Parks	58,072.04	50,484.14	1,480.00	6,107.90
Historical Committee	3,157.43	2,400.01	50.00	707.42
Memorial Day	970.00	538.86		431.14
Red Shop	1,171.97	327.49		844.48
Council on Arts	3,800.00	3,500.00		300.00
Debt	2,317,566.00	2,291,458.98		26,107.02
State Assessments	481,361.00	421,959.00		59,402.00
County Assessments	277,284.00	268,980.00		8,304.00
Other Assessments	200,890.00	200,889.35		0.65
Employee Benefits	1,366,372.00	1,344,433.86		21,938.14
Other Expenses	3,825.85	3,806.35		19.50
	16,132,846.26	15,507,181.62	501,304.52	124,360.12
Transfer to Stabilization	218,274.00	218,274.00		0.00
Transfer to Capital Projects				0.00
	16,351,120.26	15,725,455.62	501,304.52	124,360.12

Town of Hopedale
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
June 30, 2003

	Balance June 30, 2002	Revenues	Expenditures	Balance June 30, 2003
Other Special Revenue				
Early Childhood SPED	25.36	12,165.00	10,950.31	1,240.05
SPED 94-142	2,568.34	179,366.00	152,295.21	29,639.13
Title VI	1,178.00	2,729.00	1,590.50	2,316.50
Teacher Training Math/Sience	1,065.00	0.00	1,065.00	0.00
Drug Free Schools	512.00	2,950.00	2,700.29	761.71
Academic Support	1,641.71	12,100.00	12,458.98	1,282.73
Class Size Grant	270.97	0.00	270.76	0.21
SPED Professional Development	2,909.70	12,340.00	12,045.10	3,204.60
MA Parent Involvement	323.16	0.00	323.16	0.00
Technical Literacy Grant	4.77	0.00	4.77	0.00
Technical Literacy Consortium	6,238.01	0.00	6,238.01	0.00
Teacher Quality	0.00	15,991.00	14,103.24	1,887.76
SPED Corrective Action	0.00	10,000.00	5,299.90	4,700.10
Mental Health Support	0.00	6,745.00	0.00	6,745.00
Early Childhood Training	0.00	3,500.00	396.60	3,103.40
School Tuition 50/50 Program	0.00	32,030.27	0.00	32,030.27
Comprehensive Health	31.27	0.00	31.27	0.00
Safe Schools	751.38	0.00	751.38	0.00
Early Intervention	466.78	0.00	466.78	0.00
K-5 Literacy Support	0.00	13,750.00	13,750.00	0.00
High School Improvement	1,412.31	0.00	1,412.31	0.00
Hopedale Pond Study	0.00	1,102.35	1,102.35	0.00
School Lunch	8,188.36	184,637.94	171,444.41	21,381.89
School Athletics	2,000.00	34,794.79	22,632.35	14,162.44
School Tuition	37,001.26	13,376.00	11,643.82	38,733.44
School Rental Receipts	6,548.78	20,119.24	23,301.83	3,366.19
School Lost Books	1,876.81	0.00	0.00	1,876.81
Preschool	27,511.27	129,869.50	124,065.94	33,314.83
Day Care	54,526.10	154,441.16	128,037.14	80,930.12
Kindergarten	21,171.72	31,550.10	26,556.71	26,165.11
School Choice	881,742.52	762,932.00	613,435.44	1,031,239.08
School Music	12,361.53	9,586.00	9,542.89	12,404.64
Books and Beyond	0.00	1,355.00	1,355.00	0.00
Bill Francis Memorial	1,200.09	0.00	0.00	1,200.09
Hopedale Foundation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Blackstone Valley Grant	26.51	0.00	0.00	26.51
Milford National Charitable Donation	1,605.00	0.00	1,605.00	0.00
Subtotal School	1,075,158.71	1,647,430.35	1,370,876.45	1,351,712.61

Town of Hopedale
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
June 30, 2003

	Balance June 30, 2002	Revenues	Expenditures	Balance June 30, 2003
Other Special Revenue				
Equipement Block Grant	205.48	0.00	0.00	205.48
Community Policing	3,533.26	10,000.00	5,669.64	7,863.62
Federal Equitable Sharing	3,469.15	0.00	2,036.02	1,433.13
Cops In School Grant	(11,349.80)	33,336.32	41,405.04	(19,418.52)
Federal Vests	1,644.82	0.00	0.00	1,644.82
Wellness & Fitness Grant	0.00	19,795.00	19,679.40	115.60
Council on Aging	119.00	5,334.00	5,324.10	128.90
Arts Lottery	7,598.97	2,000.00	4,990.00	4,608.97
Library Aid	16,352.36	6,435.20	904.88	21,882.68
Bryne Grant	650.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	650.00
DARE Grant	743.36	0.00	508.89	234.47
Safe Fire Grant	770.29	750.00	0.00	1,520.29
Compost Bin Grant	3,070.00	65.00	0.00	3,135.00
Sun Safe Grant	895.10	0.00	700.00	195.10
State for Vests	470.00	0.00	0.00	470.00
Fire Equipment Grant	0.00	21,000.00	20,960.87	39.13
Volunteer Fire Assistance	222.00	0.00	0.00	222.00
MA Historic Society Grant	9,000.00	4,223.00	12,377.70	845.30
Anti-Terrorism Grant	0.00	20,500.00	20,500.00	0.00
Highway CH127 #38437	(32,811.87)	32,811.87	82,601.75	(82,601.75)
Police Forfeiture	2,447.35	475.50	375.50	2,547.35
Tiffany Memorial	3,132.38	0.00	0.00	3,132.38
Conservation Commission	12,116.48	1,995.00	300.00	13,811.48
Recreation Revolving	2,968.21	2,700.00	0.00	5,668.21
Hazardous Waste Material	23,913.00	35,827.04	33,076.05	26,663.99
Animal Control	9,968.34	1,805.00	903.88	10,869.46
Town Cemetery	1,819.04	575.00	400.00	1,994.04
Cable Access	61,892.39	8,165.85	54,598.96	15,459.28
DARE Program/Gift	14,510.82	10,420.72	10,019.50	14,912.04
Hopedale Birthday Committee	1,469.73	0.00	0.00	1,469.73
Friends of Red Shop	1,110.27	35,000.00	0.00	36,110.27
Commission of Disability	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Worker Compensation	35,043.46	21,710.63	21,128.21	35,625.88
Marge Hattersly Memorial	400.99	0.00	0.00	400.99
Police Building Donation	429.28	0.00	0.00	429.28
Friends of Elders Donations	2,641.35	18.00	500.00	2,159.35
Insurance Reimbursement	3,994.36	10,681.52	11,695.20	2,980.68
Fire Department Donations	340.00	0.00	0.00	340.00
Ambulance Fees	144,693.71	132,759.29	135,235.00	142,218.00
Library Donations	1,400.00	3,850.75	34.83	5,215.92
Police Communication Donations	0.00	26,502.00	23,380.00	3,122.00
Friends of Historic Hopedale	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Subtotal Town	328,973.28	452,236.69	510,805.42	270,404.55
Total Special Revenue	1,404,131.99	2,099,667.04	1,881,681.87	1,622,117.16

Town of Hopedale
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
June 30, 2003

	Balance June 30, 2002	Revenues	Expenditures	Balance June 30, 2003
Capital Projects				
Water Expension Project	0.00	731,020.69	955,901.69	(224,881.00)
Sewer Expansion Project	26,070.55	0.00	0.00	26,070.55
Fire Station Renovation	0.00	3,024,000.00	1,488,818.54	1,535,181.46
Memorial School Building	841.89	0.00	0.00	841.89
High School Building	116,624.11	0.00	51,733.24	64,890.87
Police Station	1,220.27	0.00	0.00	1,220.27
Total Capital Projects	144,756.82	3,755,020.69	2,496,453.47	1,403,324.04
Trust Funds				
Daisy Dutcher	12,583.09	151.91	0.00	12,735.00
Draper Park	2,691.98	32.49	0.00	2,724.47
Library Trust	80,839.67	1,327.90	0.00	82,167.57
Town Cemetery	879.04	10.61	0.00	889.65
Playground	103.17	1.24	0.00	104.41
Stabilization	1,769,677.69	244,584.16	348,361.00	1,665,900.85
Total Trust Funds	1,866,774.64	246,108.31	348,361.00	1,764,521.95

ANNUAL REPORT
OF TOWN COUNSEL

September, 2003

The past fiscal year was an active year in which Town Counsel rendered numerous legal opinions, approved contracts and guided transactions, met with the Board of Selectmen and various other boards, and handled a number of lawsuits on the Town's behalf.

Town Counsel continues to represent the Town in various ongoing litigation matters in state superior court, land court, state district court and before various administrative boards. Presently, there are twelve pending litigation matters involving the Town and town boards. I am pleased to report that two of the Town's litigation matters have been successfully resolved this year, through a negotiated settlement of one labor dispute and dismissal of another after the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination ruled in favor of the Town.

This year we have advised the Town on various leases and land acquisitions, zoning by-law amendments and renovations. We have drafted drainage agreements, a conservation restriction, and a request for proposals for restoration of leaded glass windows. We have reviewed and advised as to rental agreements for police department equipment, contracts for exterior renovations to Town Hall and for construction of a police station sally port addition, and a tripartite agreement for the Plain Street Industrial Park. We have assisted the Massachusetts Historical Commission with title certification for 12 Hopedale Street and drafted town meeting warrant articles requested by the Board of Selectmen.

Town Counsel has continued to take a pro-active approach to controlling costs by providing numerous memoranda on various areas of municipal law at no charge to the community. For example, we have provided memoranda discussing comprehensive permit applications to develop low to moderate income housing, military leave employment issues, new legislation requiring criminal offender record information checks for camp, school and children's program personnel, privacy rules under the new Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and recent amendments to the public records law. We have provided a municipal finance general reference list to assist public officials as to finance processes. We have also prepared guidelines as to Environmental Protection Agency storm water regulations, frequently asked questions regarding the Community Preservation Act and election day procedures, guidance as to funding snow and ice budgets, drafting local wetlands by-laws and regulations, marriage license fees, affordable housing tax agreements, and recent Telecommunications Act decisions as well as interpretations of the USA Patriot Act, the Federal Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, and the 2003 Municipal Relief Act.

As always, we strive to provide timely and concise responses to requests for advisory opinions and have assisted in the review of articles for the Warrants for Town Meetings as well as attending Town Meetings and various board meetings.

We wish to express our thanks to all the people who have dedicated their time to the town government in Hopedale, especially the Board of Selectmen, Town Coordinator, and department heads. Without their assistance and cooperation, our collective objectives could not be attained.

Respectfully submitted,

Kopelman and Paige, P.C.

201907/HOPE/0001

REPORT OF THE TREASURER/TOWN COLLECTOR

To the Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Hopedale:

This is my third Annual Report as your Treasurer/Collector and I am very pleased with the continued progress we continue to make to improve our services and overall effectiveness. This office consists of six business units headed by the Treasurer/Town Collector. These include the collector's division, treasury, payroll, benefits administration, parking ticket administration and general office support.

Our responsibilities include initiating temporary and permanent borrowing, investing, managing and disbursing town funds, receiving all revenues of the town, processing the school and town payrolls, and performing other statutory functions required by the state and federal laws. This department is responsible for the billing and collection of all real estate, motor vehicle excise, personal property taxes, sewer and water assessments and billings and all other monies committed to the department for collection. Additionally, the general offices falling under the responsibility of the Treasurer/Town Collector assists other town departments by distributing recycle bins to the taxpayers for the Board of Health, processing all building permits, electrical permits, gas permits and plumbing permits; and distributing and collecting fees for printed materials such as the residents lists, zoning bylaws, town bylaws and other materials.

We've made significant changes in the efficiency of our operation this year. Taxpayers may have noticed that the Treasurer's office has been relocated to a much more accessible location on the first floor in the general offices. Motor vehicle excise tax bills and utilities bills now contain a return envelope which directs payments directly to a bank lockbox. This not only decreases the time to post payments to your accounts but, equally important, it has eliminated the need to seek part time help during cyclical peak periods.

Once again, I would like to thank the taxpayers of Hopedale for their continued diligence in paying their taxes and assessments in a timely fashion, to the Board of Selectmen and Town Coordinator for their continued support of my ideas, projects and efforts and to the other Boards and department heads who have joined me on many instances to resolve issues requiring interdepartmental efforts. I continue to feel very privileged to have the assistance of an extremely competent staff. Thank you Donna, Carol and Deb; I sincerely appreciate all of your hard work as well as your continued cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine M. Goodwin

Christine M. Goodwin
Treasurer/Town Collector

REPORT OF THE TOWN COLLECTOR
Fiscal Year 2003

RECEIVABLES BALANCES AS OF JUNE 30, 2003

REAL ESTATE TAXES		
Fiscal Year 2003	$168,248.31	
Fiscal Year 2002	$5,942.25	
Fiscal Year 2001	$0.00	
Prior Years	$5,997.73	
		$180,188.29
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES		
Fiscal Year 2003	($2,073.76)	
Fiscal Year 2002	$6,469.75	
Fiscal Year 2001	$1,343.25	
Prior Years	$15,066.93	
		$20,806.17
TAX TITLE ACCOUNTS		$192,192.43
		$0.00
TAX DEFERRAL ACCOUNT		$0.00
MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE		
Fiscal Year 2003	$80,158.85	
Fiscal Year 2002	$14,501.31	
Fiscal 2001	$4,774.28	
Prior Years	$57,924.25	
		$157,358.69
TOTAL OUTSTANDING RECEIVABLES		$550,545.58

REPORT OF THE TOWN TREASURER

TREASURER'S CASH BALANCES AS OF JUNE 30, 2003

NON INTEREST BEARING ACCOUNTS:		
Cash in Office	$250.00	
		$250.00
INTEREST BEARING CHECKING ACCOUNTS		
Boston Safe - Vendor Account	$23.52	
Unibank - Major Deposits	$196,219.62	
Unibank - Payroll	$28.07	
		$196,271.21
LIQUID INVESTMENTS		
Eastern Bank	$990,890.30	
Boston Safe Deposit MM	$836,921.92	
Century Bank & Trust	$15,777.68	
Citizens MM	$1,048,690.65	
Fleet (Performance Bonds)	$23,108.18	
Fleet MM	$936,961.18	
Bank North Blended Investments	$391,708.71	
MMDT	$247,261.96	
Unibank MM	$220,104.50	
Unibank (Elementary School MM)	$19,599.68	
		$4,731,024.76
TERM INVESTMENTS		
Fleet (Library Fund)	$9,072.88	
Paine Webber General Investments	$397,513.39	
		$406,586.27
STABILIZATION		
Fleet	$141,190.18	
Paine Webber	$1,524,710.67	
		$1,665,900.85
TRUST FUNDS		
PAINE WEBBER	$89,548.22	
		$89,548.22
TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS		**$7,089,581.31**

Debt Statement
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

Long Term Debt	Outstanding July 1, 2002	New Debt Issued	Retirements	Outstanding June 30,2003	Interest Paid in FY02
High School	$13,720,000	$0	$765,000	$12,955,000	$745,455
Memorial School	$5,120,000	$0	$430,000	$4,690,000	$242,415
Sewer	$958,025	$0	$45,625	$912,400	$47,901
Water Mains	$0	$859,534	$0	$859,534	$4,154
Total Long Term Debt	$19,798,025	$859,534	$1,240,625	$19,416,934	$1,039,925

Short Term Debt	Outstanding July 1, 2002	New Debt Issued	Retirements	Outstanding June 30,2003	Interest Paid in FY02
1/15/2000 Ambulance	$42,296	$0	$22,609	$23,687	$2,391
5/31/2002 Sewer Construction Engineering	$125,350	$0	$125,350	$0	$3,109
07/26/2002 Fire Pump Truck	$0	$186,473	$59,919	$127,083	$6,881
10/02/02 Fire Station	$0	$1,090,000	$1,090,000	$0	$12,385
10/02/02 Water Main Replacements	$0	$110,000	$110,000	$0	$1,250
06/10/2003 Fire Station BAN Renewal	$0	$1,934,000	$0	$1,934,000	$0
06/10/2003 Water Main Replacements BAN Renewal	$0	$110,000	$0	$110,000	$0
Total Short Term Debt	**$167,646**	**$3,430,473**	**$1,407,878**	**$2,194,770**	**$26,016**

Additional Debt Authorized but Unissued	Date of Vote	Article #	Amount Authorized	Issued or Retired	Balance Unissued June 30,2003
Water Main Replacements	4/10/01	5	$1,400,000	$969,534	$430,466
Total Authorized and Unissued Debt					**$430,466**

TOWN OF HOPEDALE

78 Hopedale Street - P.O. Box 7
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747

Tel: 508-634-2203 Fax: 508-634-2200
E-mail: dkeyes@hopedale.attbbs.com

Tree Warden
Leo F. Lyons

ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2003

The past fiscal year was basically a disaster for the Tree Warden. My first mistake was keeping the tree service we had contracted the year before. At the time I felt we had the best we could get. They had done everything we needed done and in a fairly timely manner. They also did a professional job. So I decided to keep them last year. Big mistake! Soon thereafter they stopped coming to Hopedale when asked. When they did come to town, they did some things that were not at the top of my priority list and left some bad trees. I felt betrayed. I felt I had let Hopedale's townsnpeople down, epecially people who have been waiting almost a year for tree work. I apologize.

Then came the end of the fiscal year. We put the tree service account up for bid again. The previous tree service didn't even submit a bid. We ended up hiring Stumpy's Tree Service. With more money now in my budget and a new tree service, I am hopeful and optimistic.

In the first two weeks in town Stumpy's took down five bad trees that were very dangerous. They did a professional job of grinding out the stumps and removal of debris. Hopefully this will be a sign of a good year to come.

Again I would like to apologize to the townspeople, especially those who have been waiting a long time. My thanks again go out to Linda Binkowski - I couldn't do it without your help. Thanks also to the Hopedale Highway Department who have helped me out whenever needed and who did more than they had to many times. And, finally, thanks to Dan Keyes who was a great help in the hiring of the new tree service.

I look forward to better serving Hopedale this fiscal year.

Respectfully,

Leo F. Lyons
Tree Warden

2002 GROSS EARNINGS

	TrueGrossYTD
Alger, Timothy	375.00
Gallagher, Steven	375.00
Espanet, Richard P	315.00
Sesona, Mark G	537.00
Test, Earle	555.00
Ohannesian, Harry	535.00
Haynes, Thomas	450.00
Cockroft, Mary	1,000.00
Strapponi, Colleen M.	150.00
Weaver, Michael	1,050.00
Lerner, Elizabeth	1,000.00
Travers, D Craig	900.00
Luchini, Joseph	1,050.00
Comastra, Donald	225.00
Griffin, Harland	700.00
Arcudi, Louis	1,005.00
Martin, Richard	1,315.00
Pisacane, Catherine V.	350.00
Mazzarelli, Ross S.	375.00
Carroll, James F.	50.00
Fafard, Donald	700.00
Binney, James	521.33
Volpe,Richard L	1,425.00
Alberto, Lisa M.	1,425.00
Tarca, Aldo	813.00
Powell, Daryl K.	1,125.80
Marquis, William	700.00
DePaolo, John R.	250.00
Morin, James M.	315.00
Tonelli, Justine	1,000.00
Farrer Jr.,John E	800.00
Larkin, Francis J	200.00
Collins, Michael	2,315.00
Ryan, Alan	2,000.00
Milanoski, Michael	2,185.00
Binkowski, Linda	15,956.95
Keyes, Daniel M.	3,237.81
Emerick, Sharon E	42,844.75
Maher, Jeanette P.	1,002.00
Phillips, Eugene N.	8,009.60
Greene, Theresa	25,221.54
Ohannesian, Ronda	22,520.21
Milanoski,Dorothy	600.00
Hammond, Robert	500:00
Mailing,Donald	3,712.50
Gross,Vernon	2,013.20
Ciaramicoli, Michael	1,902.30
Biuso,Christopher	2,616.36

Jenkins, Ryan T.	1,766.80
Fairfield, Susan	156.00
Buksar III, Andrew	647.00
Laquidara, Edward J.	1,585.50
Fosburgh Jr., Leslie	1,822.60
Malnati,Robert M	15.31
Murphy, Harold V.	3,952.60
Maclean, James S.	3,113.13
Bucchino, Mark P	8,459.25
Lopez, Daniel	13,697.41
Grindle, Paul D.	1,897.80
Marcotte, Mark	1,704.30
Sousa, Mario	1,509.60
Huth, James	7,297.06
Goodwin,Christine	42,833.29
Lamphere, Donna	29,913.93
Winters, Carol	27,163.94
Best,Victor	50,013.81
Mank, Richard P	65,534.14
Minichielli, Wayne	47,137.23
Giovanella, Mark A	74,007.62
Saball, Andrew	46,088.70
Costanza, Eugene	71,758.21
Martin Sr.,Donald J	55,184.32
Valliere,Shawn B	54,476.31
Gardner,James M	53,394.68
Tebeau,John	30,890.60
Mason, Cherie A	30,955.67
LaRose, Jennifer A.	509.60
Evans, Patrick	39,945.50
McLaughlin, Paul T.	1,164.80
Collins, Lisa A	34,564.85
Mahan, Steven R.	6,876.80
Carron, Mark A	50,986.53
Daige, Thomas M Jr	60,704.80
Barry, Paul	44,884.25
Garland, Scott	57,308.41
Collins, William T.	30,809.97
McMorrow, David J	53,483.47
Drugan, Joseph P	2,882.00
Poirier, Bruce A.	1,494.50
Blanchette, Donald R.	1,250.50
Gill, Leo L.	1,199.00
Curley, James P	6,035.51
Hoar, T. Matthew	1,093.13
Kutcher, Brian D.	289.75
Horn, Ernest H.	2,937.50
Stanley, Craig R.	201.00
Sinko, Stephen M.	792.50
Griffin, Jamie a.	1,067.50
Rolls, Julius L. Jr.	1,141.75
Castiglione, Paul	1,589.50

Kloczkowski, Guy S.	823.50
Jones, Kenneth W.	289.75
Sanchioni, John A.	939.75
Sullo, Nicholas	1,281.00
Savoie, Frederick	533.75
Bartlett, Eugene	335.50
Keirstead, Thomas A.	533.75
Testa, Todd	924.25
Massey, Brian	1,107.50
Brophy, Sean J.	533.75
Hester, Charles E.	4,049.79
Recore, Omer H. Jr.	579.50
Clinton, Mithcell J.	289.75
Gleason, Jr. Richard J.	38,951.89
Tusino,Michael A	12,421.00
Fontana, John	800.00
Balanca,John M	1,220.00
Shimkus,Albert	3,280.00
Mael,Leon J.	500.00
Gagnon, John P	3,500.00
Thomson, Rochelle C.	480.00
Burgess, Margaret A.	300.00
Gassett, Samantha	1,160.00
Ferrucci, John A.	100.00
Coelho, Fatima L.	40.00
Lyons, Leo	1,000.00
Ozella III, Vincent	35,030.77
Lambert,Gerald	37,748.19
Watson, Thomas	34,023.71
Bosma, Steven	33,703.82
Deponte,Robert S	46,587.42
Gaffney,Charles F	41,546.80
Cooper,Donald	48,575.50
Morin, Jeffrey M.	39,803.77
Mercer,Debra	29,257.26
DeMeo, Vincent M.	29,726.00
Schreiber,John T	41,099.00
Watson,Timothy J	51,297.05
Nadeau,Christopher	37,090.22
Wellman, Gail L	500.00
Izzo,Leonard	25,338.50
Sales,Elizabeth W	650.00
Izzo, Michael A.	60.00
Arkerson, Donald P.	215.00
Vendetti, Lucio P.	705.00
Deletti, Esther	6,985.00
Mullen, Carole K.	26,015.01
Mastroianni, AJ	2,491.02
Manczurowsky,Walter P	3,618.80
Kraimer,Elaine	23,840.43
Pillsbury, Anne Pandora	3,040.88
Hoffer, Beth	49,613.87

Sullivan,Wendy H	8,811.32
Colcord, Robert	1,140.00
Gorman, Barry	730.00
Basiner, Michael S.	12,290.75
Mitchell,Elizabeth	3,292.57
Colcord, Amie	2,032.13
Masnik, Theresa Ann	2,444.38
Tremblay,Marcel H.	4,219.10
Erickson, Todd R.	847.80
Mattie, Anne L.	10,254.44
Stanas, Dorothy L.	4,283.28
Mitchell, Peter B.	277.50
Murray, Russell J.	10,963.08
Burke, Christine H.	522.00
Chysna, Chad R.	50,548.88
Chase, Patricia D.	1,289.25
Hardiman, Margaret M.	6,450.00
Klepper, Allan C.	54,264.62
Bellemore, Marilyn L.	10,553.63
Cooper, Armand F.	181.44
Bird, Robert H.	500.00
Poirier, Brett P.	50,614.62
Monique, Joanne E.	301.00
Reardon, Gregory M.	44,673.36
Laumeister, Denise T	9,312.79
Hopkinson, Allan G	18,077.75
Freeman, Lowell	13,756.59
Espanet, Melissa M.	38,051.65
Wasnewski,Andrea M	26,347.06
Hallion, Andrea M.	108,659.91
Colantoni, Jean L.	27,056.35
Jones, Mary Jo K.	73,833.27
Mullaney, Michael	20,532.73
Kelleher, Cheryl	13,235.22
Perry, Kathleen S.	32,019.25
Curtis,Jean	13,342.67
Peters, Ralph	5,196.68
McGuane,Cristen J.	3,107.00
Buckley, Michael	75,371.28
Locklin, Tami L.	14,204.75
Schauben-Fuerst, Daniel	77,619.93
Campbell, Nancy	11,384.03
Sullivan-McDougle, Carol	6,072.51
Gentilotti, Glenda D.	3,822.00
Peters, Karen	24,310.31
McGuane, Jeanne E.	21,322.59
Carrier, Julie	17,160.96
Hanley, Kevin	404.25
Kimball,Janet	4,320.00
Grady, Alison M	1,800.00
Ketcham, Stephen G.	180.00
Beaudreau, Robin M.	60.00

Tangredi, Michelle	240.00
Rossi, Frances	60.00
Elsey, Erin	1,083.65
Barys, Gretchen S.	169.68
Kleya, Jacquelyn	600.00
Small, Joseph J	2,313.00
Dec, Theodore C	21,598.91
Carboni, Melissa	360.00
Marchionni, Donna	3,516.96
Morin, Joan D	808.50
Kelly, Maureen A.	720.00
Alexander,Mark A	1,058.28
Sughrue-Labbe, Susan	120.00
Betschart,Douglas M.	240.00
Moretti, Thomas A.	120.00
Bierfeldt, Meg M.	1,386.00
Larkin, Charles H.	120.00
Clancy, Patricia A.	18.75
Ohayre, Kathleen	66.00
Califano, Cheryl M.	510.00
Scalco-Ronkin, Mikhail S.	60.00
Grady, Mary A.	300.00
Jose, Christine M.	180.00
Betschart,Michael	519.00
Horsey, James L.	840.00
Bolton-Dias,Lorraine	113.12
Tower,Christine	155.63
Meade, Penny L.	68.68
Lane, Mark A.	330.00
Frappier, Susan L.	30.00
Lombardi, Linda J.	168.48
Gois, Nicole E.	240.00
Kenton, Lannie S.	546.41
Boyett, G. Dale	3,749.00
Hyland, Joanne P.	429.40
Reickert, Brain M.	570.00
Stanas, Julie	6,040.00
Kearsley,Deborah	3,460.92
Phaneuf, Elisabeth	3,027.00
Lum, Colleen A.	96.96
Durant, Mary A.	66.00
Lee,Belinda	38.50
Chiacchia, Michelle E.	121.00
Pyne, Jon P.	60.00
Carlson, Allison T.	220.00
Bonavita, Deborah A.	30.00
Graham, William	420.00
Barrett, Karen	889.68
Alexander, Kathleen A.	71.50
Daigle, Robin	710.51
Briggs, Donna L.	200.00
Bilodeau, Andre J.	480.00

Schwartz, Deborah	240.00
McElman, Donald E.	60.00
DePaolo, Marcia	60.00
Flatley, Sharon A.	645.00
Berube, Vincent	249.08
DeSantis, Brenda J.	60.00
Tattersall, Thomas	270.00
Blake, Edward	120.00
Eiland, Larraine M.	630.00
Mei, Valerie J.	590.00
Cote, Katherine B.	420.00
Feeley, Mark F.	3,694.00
Hudson, Kathleen L.	120.00
Perkins, Hopeann	550.00
Galante, W. Scott	4,140.00
Vautour, Albert A	180.00
Lashley, Judith Rae	2,160.00
Letendre, Catherine E.	52.52
Dooley, Patricia	7,101.08
Kritikos, Anthony	420.00
Candini, Alyssa A.	90.00
Holdener, Nicole	120.00
White, Lisa	660.00
Candini, Bryan T.	300.00
Perez, Luis G.	2,100.00
Giguere, Luci F.	120.00
Rugoletti, Roland F.	480.00
Petto, Kathy M.	60.00
Martensen, Cara L.	2,418.54
Schulman,Sara	286.00
Rinehart,Richard J	1,190.00
Carig-Oneill, Karen Ann	180.00
Paul, Marsha A.	2,340.00
Fredette, Mary E.	21.75
Howard, Stephanie	7,188.88
Stock, Jason	60.00
Tiede, Mary	420.00
Mossman,Cheryl	7,773.95
Atkinson,Marie	7,534.30
Kling, Reasha A.	14,885.78
Spates,Linda M.	16,733.83
Apicella,Susan	34,335.42
Lemon,Sandra	18,631.15
Lewis,Gloria	3,367.47
Lathrop,Nicole R	6,935.73
Mulready,Susan A	55,884.70
Glenn,Sally Ann	19,021.20
Tarella,Kathleen M	9202.67
Tattersall, Elizabeth A	2,495.50
Recchia, Heatha	3,061.72
Betschart, Thomas J.	697.97
Bird, Laurie M.	19,043.53

Imbruno,Anthony B	8,993.56
Kincaid, Susan	632.80
Creekmore,Joan	7,965.87
Edwards, Courtney A.	2,447.17
MacEwen, Shannon R.	840.00
Feijo, Laura M.	743.75
Pagnini, Elizabeth	507.94
Grover-Ellis,Penny	19,709.19
Couture, Lori A.	480.00
McPhee,Phyllis	9,114.12
Thompson, Michele K.	1,861.89
Parrott, Cassandra	1,071.80
Daley, Lisa	9,970.64
Mulry,Stacey	7,970.22
Tower,Anita	5,825.09
Alger, Michael	1,568.80
Kling, Stephanie	4,051.66
Caron, Andrea	4,198.92
Martin, Karen Anne	32,144.18
Sahagian, Spencer Robert	901.25
Rando, Cindy	360.01
Rossacci,Karen	17,291.68
Caron, Thomas	833.00
Corl,Adam	780.50
Dooley, Heather L.	2,505.84
Forger, Morgan E.	878.50
Rains,Carol P	40,008.19
Cogliandro,Kathleen Ann	40,053.51
Elliott,Kathryn A	10,253.85
Smith,Jennifer	36,123.74
Berardi,Terri	11,725.85
Miller,Susan	11,176.26
Collette,Coleen	59,211.20
Moloney,Pamela	51,886.73
Lewis,Ronald	54,566.67
McGrath,Donna	59,910.44
Mooradian,Marilyn	51,100.39
Phillips,Linda J	58,191.27
Stare,Josephine	11,288.10
Wodin,Laurie S	48,567.89
Pacheco,Lori	66,170.30
Cormier,Cheryl	58,462.83
Verdolino,Nancy Kelly	58,508.85
Deluca,Janet	59,646.20
Cornell, Lucille	27,499.57
Smith,Anne M	17,328.48
Fox,Beth Barbara	51,429.47
Englund,Ann D	24,171.03
Pigeon, Lisa Marie	15,524.22
Gilbertson Jr.,Robert E	30,340.95
Shaw, Stephen G.	79,086.27
Candini, Marian E	58,717.51

D'Urso,Thomas R	59,647.79
Hobbs,Doreen	56,241.96
Baillargeon,Fredericke L	44,420.28
Walker,Jacqueline A	57,496.52
Pedersen, Christina	11,681.98
Johnson, Dianne M	49,222.29
Cappabianca,Christine Marie	49,562.82
Kita,Deborah E	61,071.84
Balog,Christine	15,044.00
Carboni, Janet	49,133.51
Atchue,Sally J	50,536.55
Page,Janet R	53,002.07
Skorupa,Candace	42,129.35
Clason, Tracey Lynch	58,416.86
Jacaruso,Janet O	10,564.60
Dunn,Suzanne G W	51,385.38
Pantano,Beth A	10,145.74
Leclaire,Jane M	48,296.75
Rolo, Ann M.	17,188.08
Sutton, Sr.,William	27,356.44
Finnegan, Kathryn E.	6,214.95
Gannon,Nancy	7,878.16
Eagan, Michael	15,275.00
Lane, Amy	36,541.24
Tuite,Linda	18,309.21
Dos Ramos,Maria	28,415.78
Manning, Laura	10,708.24
Labossiere,Claire	11,142.31
McPherson-Todd,Kelly	39,019.49
Ward, Constance	12,332.38
Borghi,Andrea	39,289.97
Ruddock,Pamela	11,439.98
Carlson,Judith	36,086.19
Valdez-Moran,Bertha	43,398.28
Hackett, Amanda	38,265.12
Davin,Virginia	5,477.28
Collette, Courtney	5,840.00
Booth, Kim	32,300.68
Martin, Kerri L.	10,358.70
LaPreste, Richard	2,218.50
Arcudi,Mary	13,075.81
Aw,Michael	44,077.12
Mangano, Barbara	14,809.30
Arsenault,Susan	7,683.21
Romasco, Alexa	34,318.64
Buonomo, Megan	11,612.92
Bourgery,Daniel	47,555.17
Cummings, Antonia	40,575.72
Gross, Mark	3,745.70
Carter, Tracey	7,478.63
Donnelly,Elizabeth	5,105.03
Ciaramicoli, Suzan	6,150.66

Gardner, Elaine M.	2,888.21
Caulkins, Linda	5,163.81
Wegman, Allison	39,173.68
Macdonald,Cheryl	36,513.14
Betschart,Ann Marie	12,120.09
Rinehart,Philip S	39,822.93
Lopes,Elizabeth F	50,669.02
Reynolds,James J	35,420.81
Donnelly,Jacqueline	9,620.50
Diantonio,Jill	44,371.50
Snaddon Griffin, Heather	56,942.67
Levinsohn, Joan R.L.	46,006.17
Brooke,Janice	49,435.31
Barclay,Bruce	65,504.72
Killam, Donna	9,466.96
Fielder,Janice	64,713.79
Guertin,Patricia	16,938.12
Heron,Lawrence	61,189.68
Morgan, Lynne	62,441.85
Nicholson,Daniel	61,535.44
Renda, Joseph J	64,891.04
Rich, William	63,977.74
Santacroce, Ronald	62,970.79
Scano, Alice M	57,883.62
Stock, Adele	64,665.12
Mendala-Thompson, Ruth	56,627.41
Woolhiser, James	33,288.51
Wood, Robert	67,703.21
Fraga,Louis	60,862.77
Howard, Mary E	17,166.05
Collins, Nancy A	52,391.77
Kut,Joyce	11,947.30
Smith,Pamela	60,694.85
Parker,Deborah A	65,341.68
Izzi, April	13,300.92
Antolini, Gina	21,339.03
Butler, M Kelley	54,801.76
Alger, Karlene A.	24,221.10
Neuding, Jan	58,218.69
Johnson, Nancy A	63,994.95
Keough, Karen G	66,966.20
DaFonte, Maria	16,638.12
Ekwall, Merideth L	45,278.28
Wood, Rachel	4,550.40
McElroy, Kathy	3,302.49
McNamara, Velma	23,776.50
Cole, Cynthia	12,146.22
Kraus DeVito, Ann	38,461.19
Urmston, Marie	44,318.03
Cordani, Anthony	55,245.55
Labrode, Ann	50,193.30
Kelly, Susan	570.00

Beaudry, Anthony	47,926.76
Breen, Dennis	80,384.94
Anderson, Beth	48,719.24
Nee, Michael	2,448.00
Tremblay, Jennifer	2,382.00
Lamora, Linda	7,708.37
Pimental,Laurie A	26,027.38
Piergustavo, Richard	42,328.64
Urquhart, Matthew	14,835.00
Guadagnoli, Sherri	37,716.63
Mulroney, Mary M	43,455.26
Oliveri, Talitha	17,901.82
Buscone, Sarah	14,544.00
Fischer, Thomas	46,983.17
Harris, Sandra	47,130.84
Capuzziello, Nancy	8,235.05
McCallum, James R.	6,091.00
Cowen, Lindsey M.	1,902.00
Bamberger, Donald	2,382.00
Magnusson, Johnny L.	2,382.00
Sartori, Emily	1,414.40
Garden-Poole, Carol	4,113.19
Schmitt, Linda	5,616.68
Kelley, Jr. Henry	65,362.85
D'Urso, Deirdre	36,414.15
Rapp, Pamela	4,232.70
LaFrance, Amy	15,403.67
Spence, Patti	46,890.04
Chapman, Susan I	35,106.59
Julian,Cathy E	1,070.31
Edwards, Virginia	58,208.99
Wood, Deborah	1,476.25
Frost, Wendy L	2,751.83
Reeves, Anne	23,029.17
Cormier, Joanne	18,213.55
Waterman, Heather A.	19,625.28
Whyte, Sarah E.	682.50
Gale, Cynthia	13,638.63
Zei, Victoria	23,590.01
Soucey, Francis	12,075.00
Wright, Shannan K.	30.00
Parise, Janice	21,015.40
Gill, Joanne	1,289.02
Ferlick, Maria	1,386.00
Ropar, Donna	7,769.70
Soto, Ana	37,886.19
Feijo, Matilde R.	150.00
Dion, Melanie	31,095.93
McCormack, Kimberley	10,521.42
Maclean, Paula	1,406.14
DiGaetano, Joseph	15,519.83
Huff, Christine	25,723.39

Sullivan III, Charles	3,186.00
Lord, Linda	8,688.53
Rasmussen, Luke	1,054.00
Killam, Sean	943.18
Smith, Margaret	13,094.53
Cornell, Mary	33,557.44
Gavin, Diane	848.72
Felton, Wendy A	3,207.05
Dec, Lisa	10,535.90
Anzalone, Marcia	10,184.36
Slawinski, Elizabeth	2,244.00
Perron, Gale	17,422.45
Anderson, Natasha Rae	924.00
Monroe, Robert	39,457.00

TOWN OF HOPEDALE

78 Hopedale Street - P.O. Box 7
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747

Tel: 508-634-2203 ex 12 Fax: 508-634-2200

Water & Sewer Commissioners

Aldo P Tarca, Chm
James Morin
Harold Anderson

To the users of the Hopedale Water system I am pleased to provide you with this annual report, covering the period of July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003.

I would like to begin by informing you that all water quality samples for this time period met or exceeded all state and federal regulations. You can be assured that the water provided to you is safe and of a high quality.

We saw the largest upgrades to date in the history of the department with the installation of 5000 feet of 16 inch water main on Hopedale Street, which replaced an old 6 inch water main installed in 1883. We also experienced the replacement of 2500 feet of 8 inch water main on Mendon Street that was installed in 1885. These system improvements not only enhanced the north to south transmission, but also assisted in improving several ISO fire flow deficiencies in the distribution system, as well as replaced old, tuberculated mains that were the cause of many water quality problems within the area. To further improve the distribution system, fire flows and water quality, the water department employees replaced six main gates in the system, repaired or replaced 9 hydrants and 12 service lines. We also cleaned 30 wells at the Mill Street pump station enabling the source to withdraw greater amounts of water. At the Greene Street source, we replaced two motors and one pump enabling the department to withdraw lesser amounts of water for longer periods of time to increase water quality. Eighty feet of transmission line and one hydrant was also replaced at the Greene Street source.

For the noted time period our Mill Street source produced 104,971,300 gallons of treated water. The Greene Street source produced 24,675,900 gallons of treated water and we purchased 18,754,903 gallons of water from the Milford Water Company. We hope to reduce and eventually stop purchasing water in the near future with the activation of four new wells that are currently in the new source approval process at the state level. These wells are anticipated to provide 300,000 gallons per day or 110 million gallons a year. These quantities of water will supply current and future growth within Hopedale for years to come.

In closing, I would like to thank employees of the Water Department. The residents of Hopedale are truly fortunate to have such dedicated and professional individuals who take pride in all that is required of them.

Respectfully Submitted

Timothy J Watson
Superintendent

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

Your local Veterans' Service Officer is committed to assist our needy veterans and dependents, with the same concern and compassion that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office and the Massachusetts House and Senate had when aid and assistance programs for our veterans were first established in the Commonwealth. Many reforms and changes have been made to improve the delivery of services. Today, with the continued support of the Commonwealth and its legislators, your Veterans' Service Officer is meeting the needs of our former service personnel.

Your Veterans' Service Officer administers many varied entitlement programs and for this reason, your local Department of Veterans' Services is considered a one-stop center. In addition to the duties to aid, assist and advise, as stated in Chapter 115. Massachusetts General Law, your Veterans' Service Officer counsels, files claims, and explores every avenue leading to the resources and revenue available for the veteran. The veteran or dependent of the veteran must be motivated to realize and be aware of his or her own assets. Where rehabilitation may be required, proper attention is given to that need, while treating the veteran or his dependent with dignity and courtesy. Our services to veterans and to their dependents are a record of which we are proud. Your Veterans' Service Officer will continue to meet his responsibility to the taxpayer with diligence, keeping in mind that monies received from other resources will reduce the financial responsibility to the Town.

Major changes in Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 115, affecting all veterans within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts include:

1. An increase in Burial Allowance to $2,000.00.
2. Reimbursement to cities and town, 75% of the cost of flags for flagging veteran's gravesites on Memorial Day.
3. Reimbursement to each city and town, 100% for training programs for Veterans Service Officers.
4. Increase Annuity Payments to $1500.00 annually, this includes parents of eligible deceased veterans, M.G.L. Chapter ll5, sec 6a, 6b, and 6c.
5. Compilation of all veterans of all wars.

My thanks to the Board of Selectmen for their understanding of the needs of veterans and for their continued support to insure those Veterans Service Department's justifiable monetary benefits are met. The Department of Veterans' Services and the Town will continue to fulfill the needs of those who served.

The Department of Veterans' Services will continue to provide service to our Veterans and their dependents, being aware of the fact that our services have constantly increased. It is, therefore, necessary to emphasize the quality of services and continue

with our best effort to maintain an efficient and economical Veterans Assistance Program.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony J. Mastroianni
Veterans' Service Officer